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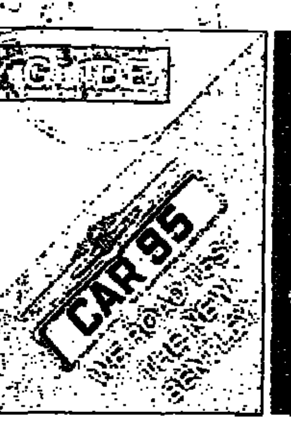

30P

THE TIMES

No. 65,212

SATURDAY MARCH 11 1995

'Cruel deception to involve court . . . we cannot make decision favourable to patient'

Cancer girl loses appeal for treatment

By Richard Duce

A GIRL aged ten was last night denied treatment to combat leukaemia after the Court of Appeal overturned a decision that a health authority should give her a last chance for life.

In a day of drama at the High Court in London, Mr Justice Laws first ruled that Cambridge Health Authority had been wrong to refuse to pay for the girl, known as Child B, to receive a course of chemotherapy and a second bone marrow transplant.

"Where the question is whether the life of a 10-year-old child might be saved, by however slim a chance, the responsible authority must in my judgment do more than toll the bell of tight resources," he said.

The health authority immediately appealed, and two and a quarter hours later three Appeal Court judges, led by Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, sat to hear the case.

After a four-hour hearing Sir Thomas said: "Such is my sympathy with the father and with B herself that I have been tempted, although disagreeing with the judge's reasoning, to leave the order which he made in being and invite the authority to reconsider the matter in the light of the judge's conclusions.

"I have, however, concluded that would be a cruel deception."

He added: "While I have every possible sympathy with B, I feel bound to regard this as an attempt — wholly understandable, but nevertheless misguided — to involve the court in a field of activity *where it is not fitted to make* any decision favourable to the patient."

The child's father was escorted, distressed, from the court. Michael Sinclair, his solicitor, said he was considering offers from newspapers to pay for the treatment. Mr Sinclair said: "Several offers of funding have been made by newspapers, and we will have to make a decision tonight as a matter of urgency." An individual also offered to cover the cost of the treatment — initially £15,000 for chemotherapy, and a possible further £60,000 for the bone marrow transplant.

Lord Justice Bingham: sympathy for father

Ironically, the health authority's costs for yesterday's action came to £15,000, with the father's half being met by legal aid funds.

Dr Peter Gravett, of the London Clinic, was standing by to begin treatment on Monday. The girl, who was given six weeks to live in mid-January, was yesterday staying with her grandparents in Croydon, Surrey.

The court ordered her identity to remain secret because she does not yet know the *seriousness of her illness.*

The girl's father brought the court action himself after he received a letter from the health authority on February 27 telling him it could not justify the cost of the treatment *when the girl had only a 2.5* per cent chance of survival. It also argued that the treatment itself could kill the girl and its side effects were so unpleasant that it would cause unnecessary suffering. Dr Gravett felt there was up to a 20 per cent chance of the girl, who has acute myeloid leukaemia, surviving.

Yesterday morning Mr Justice Laws said the local authority had failed to take into account the views of the father who wanted a "last chance of life" for his daughter. He said the health authority's decision had "assaulted her fundamental right to life".

None of the Appeal Court judges Sir Thomas Bingham, sitting with Sir Stephen Brown, president of the Family Division, and Lord Justice Simon Brown, made any reference to the "fundamental right to life" on which Mr Justice Laws had placed emphasis.

Sir Thomas said it had to be recognised that health authorities operate under budgetary constraints in deciding whether to pay for expensive treatment which might have a limited chance of success. He said Mr Justice Laws had "entirely failed to recognise the reality of the situation".

The Appeal Court ruled that Dr Roy Zimmern, director of public health with Cambridge Health Authority, had taken into account the obvious desire of the father that his daughter be treated when he made his decision to turn down the funding request. "To complain that he had no regard for the situation is to really shut one's eyes to the reality of the *situation," Sir Thomas said.*

The judges also accepted the health authority claim that the proposed treatment for B — a private operation at the Portland Clinic in London under Dr Gravett — had to be regarded as experimental. He said the third phase of chemotherapy followed by a possible second bone transplant did not have a "tried record of success." It is at the frontier of medical science."

A solicitor escorts Girl B's father into court for his ordeal of two appeals

The authority had argued that its cash reserves could be better spent on other patients rather than treating the girl *who it claimed had a minimal chance of survival. Sir Thomas* said that in a perfect world treatment would be provided for the girl but he said: "Difficult and agonising judgments have to be made as to how limited budgets can best be allocated to the maximum advantage of the maximum number of patients."

The judges said it would also be flawed to consider that the authority would at least pay the £15,000 towards chemotherapy without committing itself to the further £60,000 needed for the transplant.

After the hearing Mr Sinclair said: "We are clearly disappointed. We still hope the health authority will reconsider. Treatment is available for the girl on Monday. Because of the publicity the case has attracted it may be paid for by other means.

"We thought we had succeeded this morning by having the decision referred back. While we are disappointed the Court of Appeal has rejected the decision the publicity has had some beneficial affect."

The girl's stepmother reacted bitterly. *She said the court had taken away the family's right* to decide on the girl's treatment. "Her father has lost his choice as a parent. He is going to be devastated. I could just cry."

Father refuses to believe his child has to die

By Andrew Pierce

A TINY framed photograph of the ten-year-old leukaemia victim, which stared up at her father throughout yesterday's complex legal proceedings, was a poignant reminder of the life and death battle being fought in the High Court.

As the complicated legal arguments unfolded in the oak-panelled courtroom 33, the father, a former manager of a Cambrigeshire property company in his early thirties, constantly picked up and put down the treasured photo of his smiling daughter in its brown cardboard frame.

His own father, a source of strength beside him, whispered words of encouragement and occasionally squeezed his arm in a gesture of support. At times the two seemed miles away. At others they stared intently at Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, who was conducting the appeal hearing.

Sitting with him was Sir Stephen Brown, president of the family division, who has wide experience of life-and-death cases. He presided over the hearing into Tony Bland, the Hillsborough victim in a coma ever since the football stadium disaster, and he agreed that the life-support machine could be turned off.

As for the ten-year-old, referred to as "B", she was playing at her grandmother's home in Croydon, Surrey, unaware of the extent of her illness or the court battle with Cambridge Health Authority.

Her father, who resigned from his job last year to devote himself full time to the care of his eldest child, has moved temporarily into his own parents' Croydon home to be close to his daughter while she is treated at the nearby Royal Marsden Hospital.

The father's girl friend, who has brought up the 10-year-old as if she were her own child, was waiting by the telephone at their Cambridgeshire home for news.

The girl's natural mother left home when she was two years old and has not stayed in contact. She apparently knows nothing of the courtroom drama or her daughter's illness. The couple are divorced.

The schoolgirl has been haunted by serious illness since she was struck down by leukaemia at the age of five. She had only just started school.

The girl was given an intensive course of chemotherapy which was completed in August, 1992. It was an apparent success.

The family was ecstatic. She returned to normal health and they thought she had beaten the illness. She went back to school. But in December 1993 it returned with a vengeance when she developed acute myeloid leukaemia. She had to have another harrowing course of chemotherapy, which included total body irradiation.

In March, 1994, a bone marrow transplant was performed. Her nine-year-old sister was the donor. The family

Continued on page 2, col 1

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Trade deficit up at £1.6bn

Britain's trade deficit jumped sharply in December to £1.64 billion from £754 million in November, but analysts said it was due largely to one-off factors such as auction-house imports of works of art for resale from the United States, and that trade trends remain favourable........Page 21

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Blair wins a 58-42 Clause Four success from Scottish party

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR last night cleared the final hurdle in his attempt to modernise Labour's constitution with a resounding victory at the Scottish party conference over his plans to ditch Clause Four.

After a heated debate, delegates voted by 58.3 per cent to 41.6 per cent to support the Labour leader in his drive to drop the party's commitment to nationalisation. Mr Blair's ambitious gamble of making a personal appeal to delegates an hour before the critical vote in Inverness paid off after a nail-biting card vote.

The Labour leadership claimed a triumphant victory after winning both the trades union and constituency sections. "I am absolutely delighted," said Mr Blair, after hearing the result. "A few weeks ago this would have been unthinkable. It shows the pace at which the debate for change is being made."

Mr Blair said he was now confident that he would win at Labour's special conference on April 29, but he emphasised he would argue the case for change right up to that date. "This is an important day for the Labour Party," he added.

The three biggest unions voted differently, but Mr Blair won crucial backing from Unison, the public sector union, which drafted the motion supporting change. The GMB General Union, with 12 per cent of the vote, abstained, while the Transport and General Workers Union opposed Mr Blair. A motion supporting the retention of Clause Four unaltered fell by 44 per cent to 56 per cent.

On Monday, Mr Blair will present his new, proposed draft of Clause Four to Labour's national executive, after last minute negotiations between top party personalities. But yesterday's vote will make it easier for Mr Blair to argue against hardliners seeking amendments. Most insiders now expect him to gain a clear victory on April 29.

Mr Blair's win in Scotland — a Labour traditionalist heartland — was particularly significant as most of the 72 constituencies were strongly opposed to change when the conference resolutions were tabled last December.

All yesterday, party organisers were engaged in a last-minute, arm-twisting exercise to try to influence delegates given that the unions were apparently evenly split over whether to abandon the bedrock of the party's constitution. Mr Blair earned a standing ovation from most of the 500 delegates after warning them, in a passionate speech, that if the party was serious about winning power it had to change. "The election will not be won until we have deserved to win it, until we have gained the support and trust of the British people. If we can't get other people to believe what we are saying, then why should they have the courage to trust us with government?"

He signalled some of the key elements that would be contained in the new draft of Clause Four: it would back strong public services but also a thriving public sector where "markets could exist alongside public ownership in the ecomomy which works in the public interest".

Blair yesterday after the vote announcement

The Labour Party should not be relegated to a protest party, he said. He pressed the right buttons and earned the standard applause when he pledged to re-nationalise the health service, and underlined Labour's belief in publicly owned rail and mail systems.

Mr Blair dismissed calls for an addition to Clause Four as a "cop out" and aruged it was "farcical" to suggest that the 77-year-old constitution could not be changed.

But he faced strong oppositon from some delegates. George Galloway, MP for Glasgow Hillhead, accused Mr Blair of being a "butcher" trying to sell a "pig in a poke" before the words of the new clause had been finalised.

But Helen Lidell, who won Monkland East after the death of John Smith, rallied to Mr Blair's cause. She claimed that she wanted a statement of aims and values that she could be proud of as a "Scot, a woman and a mother determined to find a better heritage for her children".

Politics, page 8

Trafalgar's cut-price bid rejected by Northern

By Martin Waller

THOUSANDS of private shareholders lost out on windfall gains last night when the takeover bid for Northern Electric, the electricity distributor covering the North East suddenly collapsed.

The £1.23 billion bid was a further casualty of Tuesday's intervention from Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, who said he was considering making the industry cut its prices. His move has already cost new investors in the two generators their profits on the £4 billion issue.

Trafalgar House, the bidder for Northern, withdrew its £11-a-share offer, which would have provided gains of £8.60 a share to investors who bought when the company was privatised in 1990. Northern last night refused to consider a lower offer of £9.50.

Northern has 115,000 shareholders, the vast majority of them small private investors who bought their shares on privatisation, at £2.40 a share. The shares finished the day at £8.80, down 10p.

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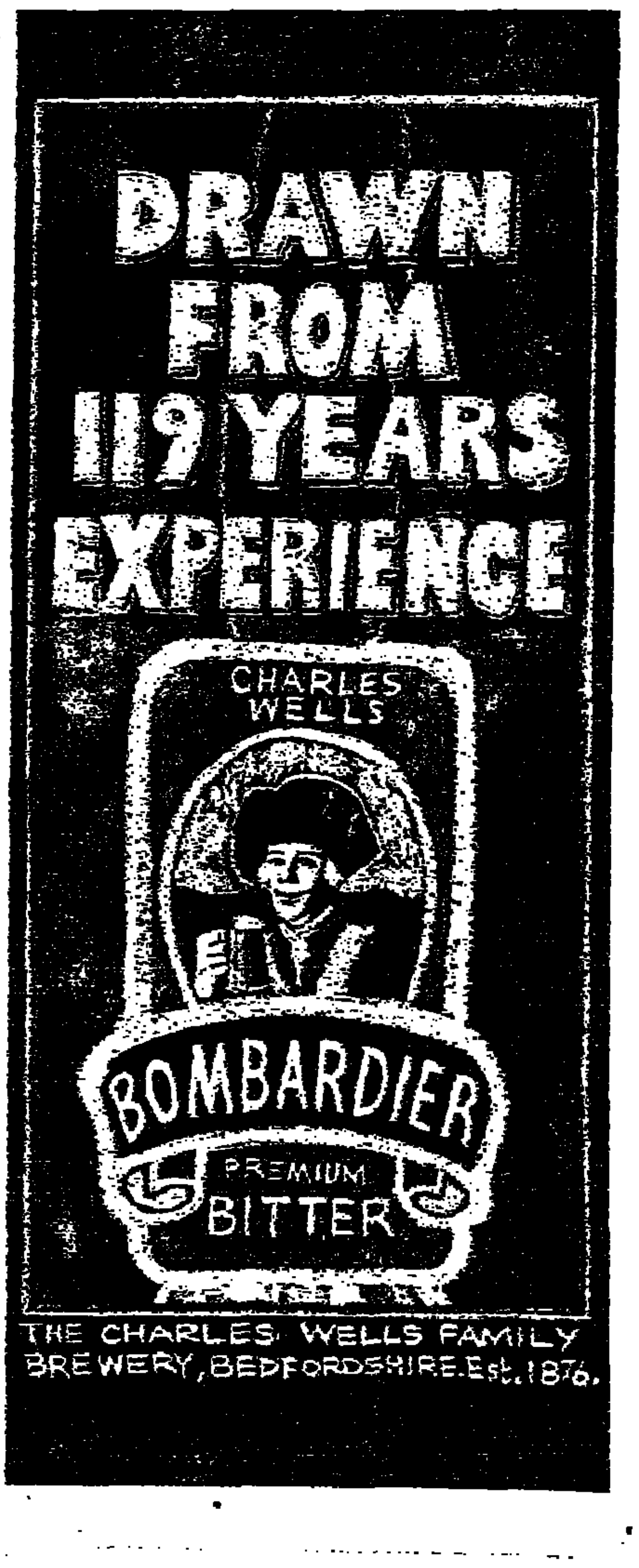
Tempus, page 24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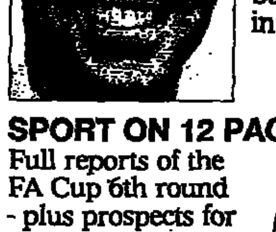
THE TIMES NEXT WEEK

MONDAY

A RAILWAY FAN MAKES A CONFESSION

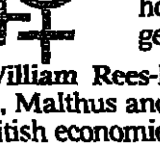


Matthew Parris says enthusiasm for railways is harmless in train spotters but expensive in ministers

SPORT ON 12 PAGES

Full reports of the FA Cup 6th round - plus prospects for the Cheltenham racing festival and world heavyweight boxing

THE GAY GENE

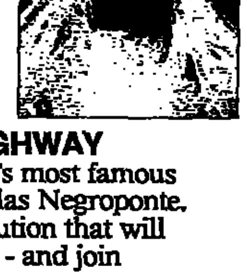


Matt Ridley explores the genetic puzzle of how the homosexual gene evolved

Plus: William Rees-Mogg on Keynes, Malthus and the US and British economies.

FASHION

LONDON BIDS FOR THE PARIS CROWN



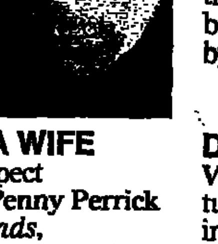
Is British fashion sharp enough to put our designers back on the world map - or will Paris continue to reign as fashion capital of the world? Iain R. Webb reports

THE SUPER HIGHWAY

Exclusive: America's most famous media guru, Nicholas Negroponte, on the digital revolution that will transform our lives - and join a *Times*/Dillons forum

ARTS

ROLL OVER BEETHOVEN



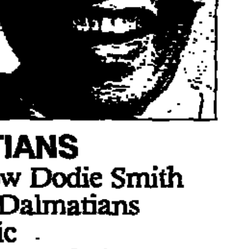
Geoff Brown on Hollywood's latest portrayal of tortured genius; Gary Oldman as Beethoven, plus Susan Sarandon in *Little Women*

WALKING OUT ON A WIFE

Can men and women expect happiness on demand? Penny Perrick reviews *The Best of Friends*, Joanna Trollope's new novel heading for the bestseller list

SOUTH AFRICA

MANDELA'S NEW NATION



The Queen is due in South Africa next Sunday. A new series looks at the transformation brought about by Mandela

DODIE'S DALMATIANS

Valerie Grove tells how Dodie Smith turned a passion for Dalmatians into a children's classic

Plus: Full reports from Crufts Dog Show in Birmingham

EVERY DAY: The latest news on health in Dr Thomas Stuttaford's Medical Briefing - plus Chess, Bridge and The Times crosswords

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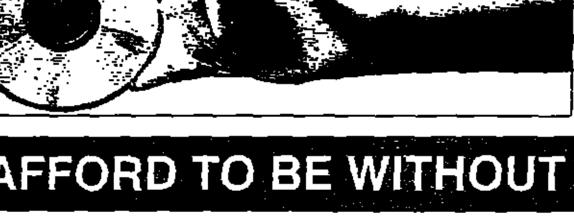

EVERY DAY - THE BEST WRITERS

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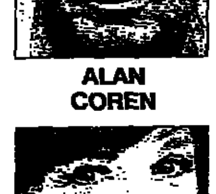
BERNARD LEVIN



ALAN COREN

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THE TIMES - AT JUST 20p A DAY CAN YOU AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT?

Father

Continued from page 1

were told it would be about six weeks before she could go home, but again she defied the odds and left after three weeks.

For almost a year the disease appeared to have gone into remission, and she returned to school.

But in January there was an unexpected relapse. Doctors at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, where she had been treated, gave her only six to eight weeks to live. They said there was nothing more they could do for her.

But the girl's father and his girl friend took advice from experts in California who said that the child had a 60 per cent chance of coming through a second transplant successfully, and that there was a 30 per cent chance it could lead to a full cure. But Addenbrooke's Hospital rejected their assessment.

A family conference was held and, on the advice of sympathetic doctors, they turned to Hammersmith Hospital in West London. They were given great hope: a further course of chemotherapy, and if that were successful, a second transplant.

But still Cambridge Health Authority vetoed any expenditure. By February 21, it was academic. There were no beds left at Hammersmith Hospital.

In desperation, the girl's father turned to the private sector for help. When the London Clinic agreed it was prepared to consider treatment, the health authority refused to provide the funds and the father set out on his final gamble.

Within days the case was rushed into the High Court because of the child's rapidly deteriorating condition. It was only on Wednesday that the father discovered for the first time that the health authority's objections to the treatment were not only clinical, and that finance played a part.

At the end of the appeal with the Master of the Rolls, which followed almost two days of legal argument, the father and his father sat quietly waiting the verdict.

First ruling said doctors had no right to decide

MR JUSTICE LAWS decided in the High Court yesterday morning that Cambridge district health authority's decision to deny funding for treatment for the girl known as B had "assaulted" her fundamental right to life.

He ruled that doctors did not have the right to decide what was in the best interests of the girl. That decision should be made by her parent, he said.

In his judgment, overturned by the Court of Appeal last night, he said: "It may readily be assumed that a ten-year-old child, in circumstances such as those of this case, cannot make for herself an informed decision upon the question, 'Which course of action is in her best interests?'

"That being so, someone else must take the decision for her. But it should not be the doctors; it should be her family — her parents. In the case of a little child, others must decide it — not the experts, but those having, legally and morally, overall care of the patient."

Cambridge district health authority wrongly decided to base its decision to deny funding solely on what was "clinically appropriate" and without regard for B's father's views, Mr Justice Laws said.

Earlier in his judgment, he spelt out the difficult moral dilemma before him. "Of all human rights, most people would accord the most precious place to the right to life itself. Sometimes public authorities, who are subject to the jurisdiction of this court, have the power of life and death — or at least to decide, as I find is the case here, whether a person otherwise facing certain death should, by means of resources at the public body's disposal, be given the chance of life."

He also said that the health authority did not present any evidence about their resources except to point out that "the extra-contractual referral budget is finite". In my judgment,

OVERTURNED JUDGMENT

looking at the whole of the evidence, there is a small but significant prospect of overall success for B.

"If the necessary funds are made available for Dr Gravett to embark on B's treatment, she would enjoy what I will call a worthwhile chance of life. It may be very modest. It may be less than 10 per cent. But to anyone confronting the prospect of extinction in a few weeks such a chance of longer, perhaps much longer, survival must be unimaginably precious."

Mr Justice Laws said: "Merely to point to the fact that resources are finite tells one nothing about the wisdom or, what is relevant for my purposes, the legality of a decision to withhold funding in a particular case. But where the question is whether the life of a ten-year-old child might be saved, by however slim a chance, the responsible authority must in my judgment do more than toll the bell of tight resources. It must explain the priorities that have led it to decline to fund the treatment. It has not adequately done so here.

> ❛ Of all human rights, most people would accord the most precious place to the right to life itself ❜

Quoting the relevant precedents, he said that: "It seemed to me that a fundamental right, the right to life, was engaged in the case. I invited counsel's attention to two authorities in their Lordships' House: Musisi [1987] AC 514 and Brind [1991] 1 AC 696.

"In Musisi, the Court of Appeal ruled, 'The most fundamental of all human rights is the individual's right to life and when an administrative decision under challenge is said to be one that may put the applicant's life at risk, the basis of the decision must surely call for the most anxious scrutiny.'

"In the light of these materials the first two questions I must decide, as it seems to me, are whether the respondents in the present case have (a) taken a decision that interferes with the applicant's right to life, and (b) if they have, whether they have offered a substantial public interest justification for doing so.

"But the fact is that without funding for Dr Gravett's treatment, the applicant will soon certainly die. If the funding is made available, she might not: as things stand at present, the respondents are the only apparent source of the necessary funds."

He also ruled that the health authority failed to even consider providing £15,000 for the first part of B's treatment, chemotherapy. Another £60,000 would have been necessary for a bone marrow transplant if the chemotherapy had been successful.

"It seems to me that the respondents as a reasonable authority should have considered the case distinctly on the basis that the first call was for £15,000 only."

He ruled that: "For the reasons I have set out in the narrative of this judgment, the respondents' decision not to advance funds for B's treatment must be quashed.

"I accept that at present no sufficient justification has been shown to refuse this chance of life to B."

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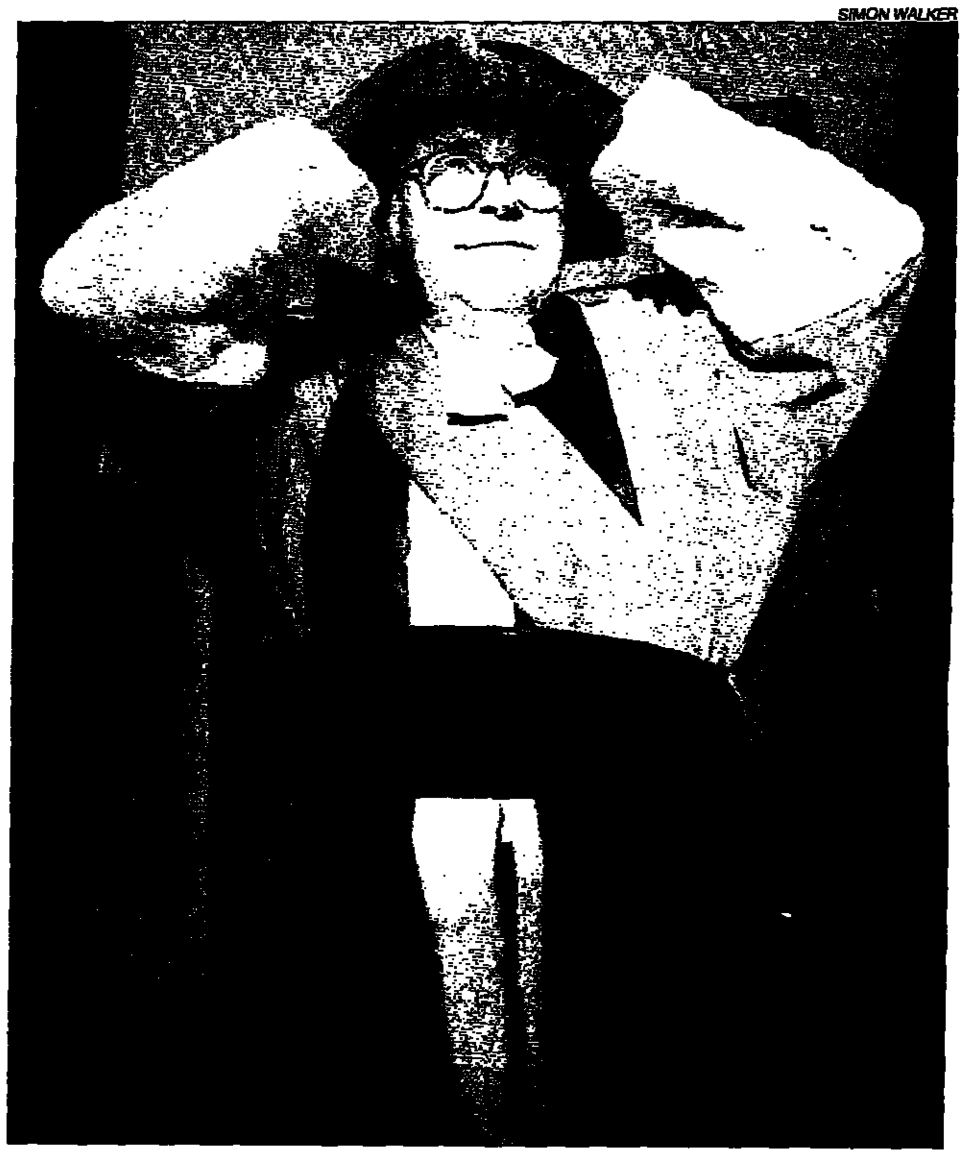
Simon Jenkins, page 17
Leading article, page 16



SIMON WALKER

Mr Justice Laws's parents and grandfather were distinguished doctors

Prescriptions of mercy

By Emma Wilkins

MAN IN THE NEWS

MR JUSTICE LAWS, who comes from a distinguished medical family, was one of seven senior judges to speak out against the Home Secretary's approach to crime and punishment 18 months ago.

After Lord Woolf, a Law Lord, criticised Michael Howard's *prison-building* programme, Mr Justice Laws and six others publicly supported his view that tougher jail sentences were not necessarily the solution to rising crime.

The son of two doctors and grandson of a distinguished psychologist, John Laws was educated at Durham Cathedral Choir School and Exeter College, Oxford. He and his wife Sophie married in 1973 and they have one daughter. His written work has included contributions to the *Dictionary of Medical Ethics*.

Called to the Bar in 1970, the early years of his legal career were spent as Treasury counsel. He acted for the Government in the *Spycatcher* and GCHQ unions trials and at the inquest into the deaths of three IRA members on Gibraltar.

He was knighted when he was appointed to the Queen's Bench Division three years ago, but caused controversy when he sentenced the businessman Roger Levitt to 180 hours' community service in 1993 for his part in a £34 million fraud. The sentence, widely criticised as too lenient, came after Levitt pleaded guilty to charges relating to the deception of Fimbra, the financial watchdog.

In an explanation of his sentencing, Mr Justice Laws said that the fraudulent trading admitted by Levitt related only to the last stages of the Levitt Group saga. At the time of the offences, private individuals and banks had already suffered losses of millions of pounds, he said.

Mr Justice Laws also sat at the trial of Julie Kelley, who abducted Abbie Humphries from a maternity ward. Kelley, 22, who was eight months' pregnant at her trial, was spared a jail sentence after the judge was told she had psychiatric problems.

Bottomley admits treatment rationing

By Jeremy Laurance
Health Services Correspondent

DECISIONS about treatment must be left to doctors, Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, said yesterday. However, doctors had to recognise that a decision to treat one patient might deny the chance to another, because NHS resources were limited.

"In a modern high-tech health service every decision to treat has an opportunity cost. It takes place in circumstances of finite resources," she said. The refusal by Cambridge Health Commission to pay for treatment for the ten-year-old leukaemia patient was an example of the "greater transparency" of the service.

"The history of medicine is of pioneering techniques gradually being made available to a wider number of patients," Mrs Bottomley said. The development of experimental treatments should take place in specialist centres where they could be monitored.

Dr Ron Zimmern, director of health policy and public health for the Cambridge Health Commission, said £955,000 of the commission's total budget of £200 million was available to pay for specialist treatments not covered by local hospital contracts.

Most of those specialist referrals are decided by local doctors in consultation with administrators. "Every doctor implicitly rations. What happened in this case is that the rationing process was made transparent," he said.

Dr Zimmern said the decision to withold funding had been made on both clinical and financial grounds. "But the issues of clinical appropriateness and effectiveness were of far higher importance."

The British Medical Association said in a statement that the case raised "fundamental issues of how health care resources are rationed" in the NHS. The judgment could have far-reaching implications for doctors by allowing challenges to the clinical decisions they made every day.

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Consultants felt further treatment would involve great suffering when chances of success were low

NHS specialists advised against second operation

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

ROBIN MAYES

Dr Peter Gravett, of The London Clinic, is ready to treat the girl. "She is fit enough to withstand it and she has the spirit to go through with it"

DOCTORS from two specialist NHS hospitals involved in the treatment of the 10-year-old leukaemia patient advised against subjecting her to a second bone-marrow transplant, it emerged yesterday.

Consultants at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, where the girl had chemotherapy, and the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, which performed the first bone-marrow transplant on her, felt that it was not justified to put her through further unpleasant treatment when the chances of success were low. In an affidavit to the High Court, they said that the proposed treatment was experimental, not therapeutic and would involve "great suffering" for the child.

The girl's father sought a second opinion from Professor John Michael Goldman, head of the leukaemia unit at Hammersmith Hospital. It is understood that Professor Goldman recommended further NHS treatment at the hospital, but did not have a bed available in his unit.

He referred the father to Dr Peter Gravett of the private London Clinic, near Harley Street. Dr Gravett said he was prepared to begin treatment immediately for the same cost as on the NHS.

Yesterday Dr Graham Winyard, deputy chief medical officer at the Health Department, backed the recommendation of the NHS consultants. Every decision to treat was about the "balance of benefit" to the patient, he said. "Addenbrooke's and the Royal Marsden are the very best places for developing pioneering treatments. The private sector is not where it goes on.

THE TREATMENT

Why do you think they said no? They were acting in the best interests of the child."

Dr Gravett, 48, set up the bone-marrow transplant unit at The London Clinic in 1985 after retiring from the Royal Air Force Medical Corps, in which he was a Lieutenant Colonel. He said he had performed 150 bone-marrow transplants in the past ten years.

He works only in private practice and is a consultant haematologist at the clinic. He said he did not agree that going ahead with treatment was not in the girl's best interests. "I feel she is fit enough to withstand treatment at the moment and I think we should be treating her. She has the spirit to go through with it. Even if we achieved only a partial success that would give her more weeks or even months before the leukaemia came and took her again."

He said that the treatment could start on the girl immediately the go-ahead was given. It would begin with a five-day course of chemotherapy which would have a 10 to 20 per cent chance of putting the leukaemia into remission. If this was successful, a second transplant should be attempted.

Only 114 patients worldwide have had a second bone-marrow transplant, according to the international registry held in Wisconsin. American studies show that those who relapse within six months of their first transplant have less than a 10 per cent chance of benefitting from the second one, but those who relapse at more than nine months have a 10-20 per cent chance.

"This girl relapsed at exactly nine months, so it is difficult to say which side of the fence she falls," Dr Gravett said. "In my letter to the father I said that if we got her into remission with the initial chemotherapy then I would recommend proceeding to a transplant. But if we did not, then the chances of success of a second transplant would be so remote it would not be justified. I think he accepted that."

A second, more intense course of chemotherapy, to prepare for the transplant, would begin six weeks after the first, when the body had had a chance to recover from the toxic effects of the drugs. It would destroy the bone marrow which would then be replaced with a second donation from the girl's sister. The treatment would involve a month in hospital, much of it in isolation.

It would cause unpleasant side effects, such as mouth ulcers and diarrhoea. It would make her hair fall out and she would feel unwell and be prone to infection. There would also be a risk of damage to her heart, liver and kidneys.

In leukaemia, abnormal white blood cells invade the bone marrow, pushing out the normal white cells responsible for fighting infection. The body cannot produce red blood cells, leading to anaemia. Chemotherapy results in the destruction of normal white cells as well, so patients need repeat tranfusions.

"It is a blunderbuss treatment," Dr Gravett said. "You target the cells you want to get rid of but you do destroy a lot of good cells along the way."

How the cost adds up to £75,000

THE PRICE

THE cost of a bone-marrow transplant ranges from £25,000 to more than £75,000, depending on complications such as infections.

The Royal Marsden Hospital in London said that £75,000 was the average cost of the "very high-risk" treatment, including six months' aftercare and coverage for complications. More than half the cost is spent on a month's hospital stay with "high-intensity nursing". The drugs used in the treatment were not particularly expensive, a spokeswoman said.

Dr Peter Gravett, of the private London Clinic near Harley Street, said the clinic's charge for the girl's initial course of chemotherapy would be £15,000 if it required two weeks in hospital. "We would aim to do as much as possible on an out-patient basis in which case the cost might come down to between £5,000 and 10,000," he said.

The transplant would cost £60,000. The clinic charges up to £500 a day for in-patients. Dr Gravett said: "It is all about money for the health authorities. It is purely a question of balancing the finance against chances of success."

Tabloids offer thousands for 'very sad' story

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent

THE MEDIA

TABLOID newspapers were competing last night to pay for the treatment needed to save the life of the ten-year-old girl, in return for exclusive interviews with her family.

The girl's father is unwilling to accept any offers at present. Michael Sinclair, his solicitor, said: "We have had a number of offers from newspapers. He does not want to get involved with the press yet. He does not think it is in his daughter's interest."

As the girl is still, legally, a ward of court she cannot be identified, unless either a newspaper or her family applied to the courts for the order to be lifted.

Phil Hall, deputy editor of the *News of the World*, said that his paper had offered £15,000 immediately to pay for the chemotherapy she needed and to launch an appeal to its readers for the money to cover the rest of her treatment. "This is a very sad story. Our readers respond very well to these sorts of cases. We often get double the money the person needs, in which case we usually donate the surplus to the hospital," he said.

Sinclair: "We have had a number of offers"

The *Daily Express* and the *Daily Mirror* were also understood to have made offers to the girl's father and his lawyers to cover the estimated £75,000 cost of her hospital care. The *Daily Mail* is thought to have offered £60,000 for the family's story.

Tabloid newspapers might typically buy personal disaster stories for £2,000 to £20,000 on the condition that they receive an exclusive interview with the victim or their family. Where papers launch fund-raising appeals, however, exclusivity is not always a condition. In such circumstances the editors hope to build up reader loyalty by satisfying a tide of feeling among those who wanted to help, but who do not know how else to do so.

Stuart Kuttner, managing editor of the *News of the World*, said that papers felt they could add to their value by launching such appeals or by setting up trust funds for deserving cases. Readers inundated *The Times* last night with offers of money to pay for the treatment. Offers ranged from a Brighton man pledging £100 to a Scandinavian chemical company which offered £1,000.

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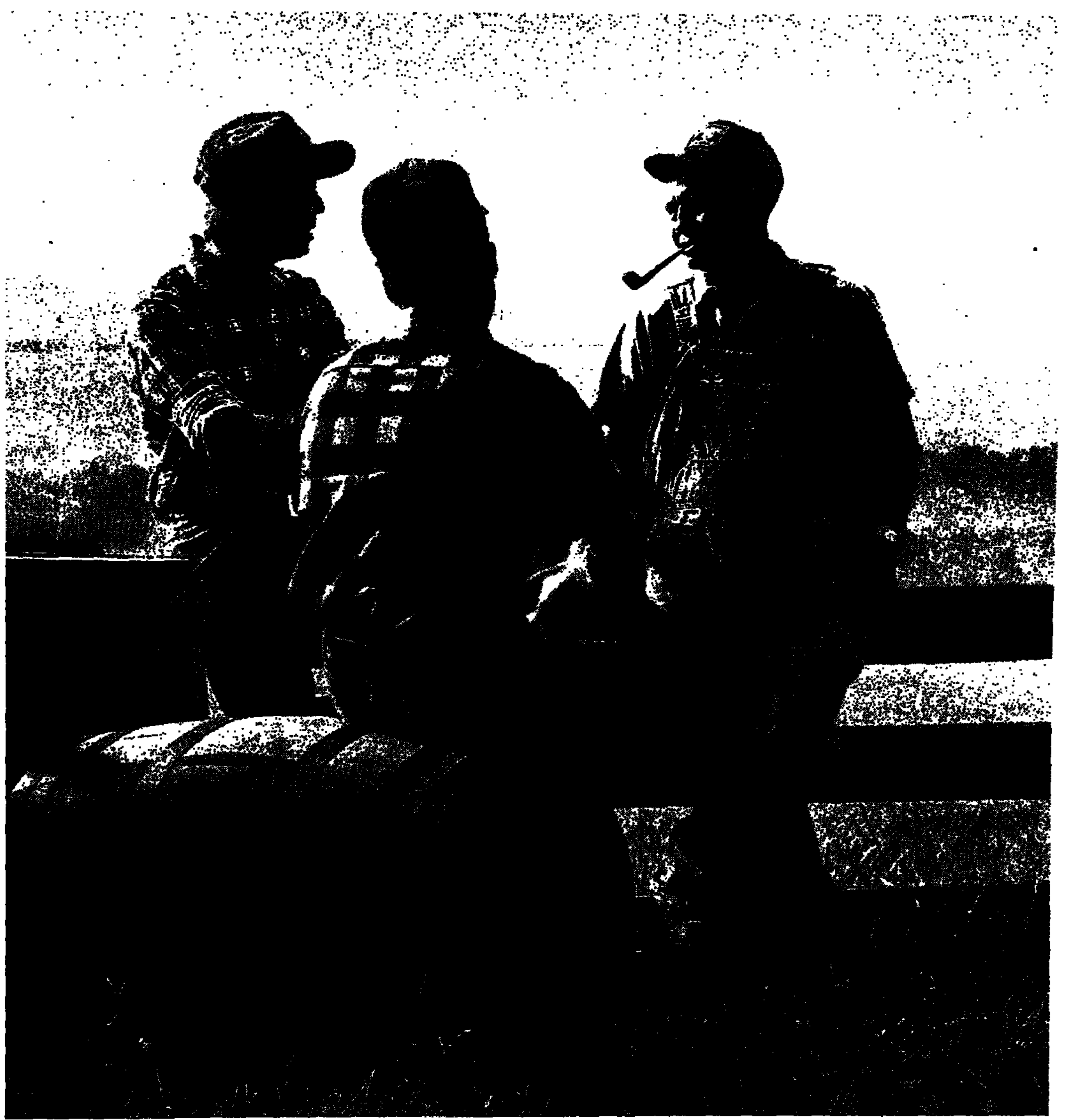

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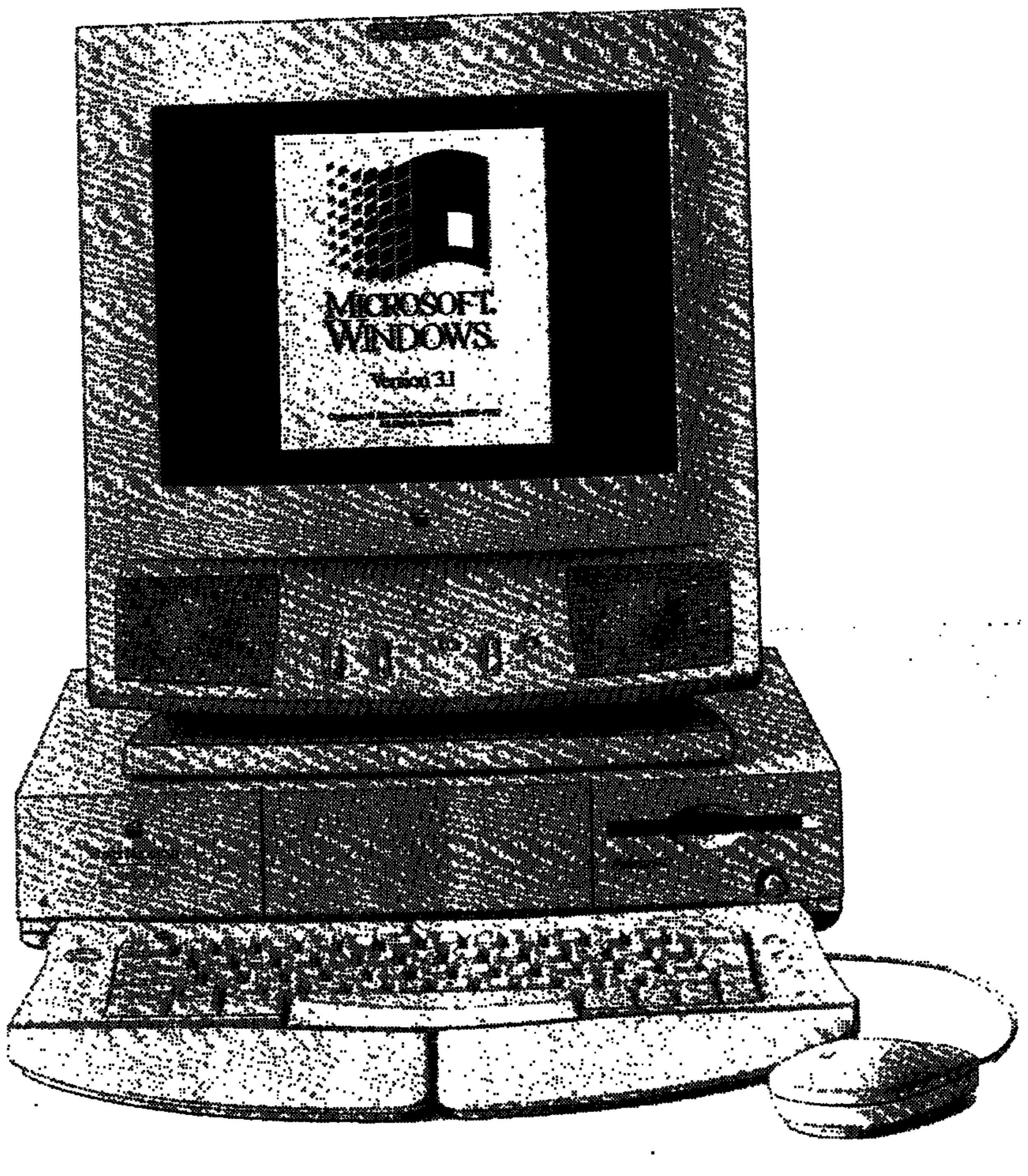

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صحف من الارشيف

President puts electoral faith in the Irish-American factor

Clinton: regards Ireland as a foreign policy success

■ Bill Clinton, in an attempt to secure his political future, has ignored Britain and his advisers over the Adams visit, Martin Fletcher writes

PRESIDENT Clinton called in January for a worldwide war on terrorism; last Wednesday he bitterly condemned the terrorist murders of two American diplomats in Karachi, offering $2 million to find the killers. On Thursday he allowed Gerry Adams, the public face of the IRA, to raise funds in America and invited him to a White House party.

It is true, as the White House argued, that the IRA has observed a ceasefire since August but Mr Adams has not renounced violence formally and *still* has a deadly terrorist organisation at his disposal. Moreover Mr Clinton, in conferring such legitimacy on the Sinn Fein president, disregarded the most urgent appeals from Britain, America's closest ally, and a personal message from John Major.

Mr Clinton also ignored Warren Christopher, his Secretary of State, Tony Lake, his National Security Adviser, and Janet Reno, his Attorney-General, who had argued particularly strongly that such concessions to Mr Adams contradicted his strong stand against terrorism.

Their view was that the IRA had failed to make concrete progress towards decommissioning its arsenal, the condition for fundraising that Mr Lake had spelt out to Mr Adams during their White House meeting last December. They advised Mr Clinton to maintain the fundraising ban but to save Mr Adams's face by inviting him to next Friday night's St Patrick's Day reception. As late as Wednesday morning Administration officials were predicting that such would be the outcome and a British source confirmed that it "all looked tickety-boo". But the President decided otherwise.

A senior White House official said that Mr Clinton "directed" Mr Lake and Nancy Soderberg, the National Security Council's Irish expert, to "seek a public commitment from Sinn Fein to include decommissioning" during exploratory talks with British ministers. On Thursday Mr Adams announced his willingness to include decommissioning in the talks. President Clinton immediately dropped the fundraising ban.

The Administration did not consult the British Government on the significance of Mr Adams's statement. Had it done so, it would have been told forcefully that "a mere expression of a willingness to talk about decommissioning does not amount to substantial progress", as one British source said. "By intellectual sleight of hand, by seizing on a piece of paper which may or may not let us upgrade the talks, they have claimed this is massive progress. Anyone who knows the subject must know it's not."

The charitable explanation of Mr Clinton's conduct is that he genuinely believed he would advance the peace process by bolstering Mr Adams, whose image as a man of peace convinces more Americans than Britons. That was what he was hearing from the Irish Government and from Jean Kennedy Smith, the United States Ambassador in Dublin. Last year he lifted the ban on Mr Adams visiting America despite vehement British objections, and is now so convinced that the decision paid dividends that he regularly cites Northern Ireland as a foreign policy success.

But even supposing such an explanation, his decision is a huge gamble. By abandoning its own pre-condition for letting Mr Adams raise funds, the Administration has deepened the Ulster Unionists' distrust of the peace process and surrendered its strongest leverage over Sinn Fein. There will be no peace talks if Sinn Fein insists on negotiating with a gun behind its back.

The uncharitable explanation is that the President was prepared to jeopardise the peace process and to fail a loyal ally to boost his 1996 re-election prospects. He admitted Mr Adams last year in large part to placate two senior Irish-American Senators, Edward Kennedy and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, whose support for his health-care reforms he deemed essential.

Mr Clinton is only 48, but this will be the last campaign of a career spent running for office and it is one he desperately wants to win. He is preoccupied with shoring up his political base and deterring potential challengers for the Democratic nomination. For that, he must have the support of the Irish-American lobby, so powerful in New York, Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia.

If Phil Gramm, the Republican presidential candidate, can raise $4.1 million from a single event, Mr Adams should be able to raise at least that much from the 40 million Americans who claim Irish descent. Mr Clinton's only sop to British sensibilities is to bar photographs of his handshake with Mr Adams next week, but even in that there may be an element of self-interest. If the peace process did break down, and if the IRA resorted again to violence, Mr Clinton's political foes would crucify him with such a picture.

Clinton was wrong to lift fund-raising ban, says Mayhew

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SIR PATRICK MAYHEW yesterday underlined Britain's anger at President Clinton's decision to allow Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, to raise funds in America when he said that President Clinton was mistaken. He effectively accused America of inconsistency in the fight against terrorism.

The Northern Ireland Secretary, who during a trip to Washington earlier in the week had called on the Administration to maintain the ban, said people were dismayed by the move.

Earlier, Malcolm Moss, a junior minister at the Northern Ireland Office, said British people were surprised by the President's decision because the IRA was active and trying to procure arms.

His comments came as Jean Kennedy Smith, the American ambassador to Dublin, defended President Clinton's decision to lift the ban. Mr Moss said that Washington had supposedly called for the IRA to be demobilised and for the organisation to stop procuring arms as preconditions for allowing Mr Adams to raise funds. But he said: "We have no indication that [these areas] have been looked at by Sinn Fein and the IRA. As far as we are concerned nothing has changed."

Kennedy Smith: US had to make decision

Mr Moss said that British ministers would not sit down with Sinn Fein until the party had indicated how it would decommission its weapons.

In a BBC interview, Sir Patrick, who barely disguised his anger at the Administration's rejection of his advice in Washington on Tuesday, used unusually undiplomatic language to highlight America's inconsistency in its attitude to terrorism. He said that Washington had called for an international fight against terrorism when two of its officials were murdered in Pakistan recently, but hinted that America appeared to have a different attitude to Northern Ireland when he said: "We have sustained something like 3,000 murders in the past 25 years of terrorism. It concentrates your mind when it is your own country and your own countrymen and women who have suffered these monstrous attacks."

Mrs Kennedy Smith said yesterday that Mr Clinton decided to lift the ban after Mr Adams issued a "positive" statement promising that his party would discuss the decommissioning of arms in talks with British ministers. In his statement Mr Adams called for demilitarisation in Northern Ireland, adding: "This requires movement on a range of issues including repressive legislation, prisoners and the decommissioning of weapons."

But Sir Patrick said that Mr Adams's pledge had not taken the issue forward.

In an interview with BBC Radio, Mrs Kennedy Smith said that Sinn Fein had appointed an accountancy firm in New York to ensure that funds would only be used for "legitimate political purposes".

The Ambassador denied that Mr Clinton's decision would damage Anglo-American relations, but hinted that she was irritated by Britain's lobbying in Washington to persuade the administration to maintain the ban on Mr Adams. "It has to be a US decision," she said.

John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, yesterday welcomed President Clinton's decision. But he also added his voice to calls for Sinn Fein to persuade the IRA to decommission some of its weapons.

GREG GIBSON

Gerry Adams with Mairead Keane, who is to run Sinn Fein's first office in the United States and raise funds

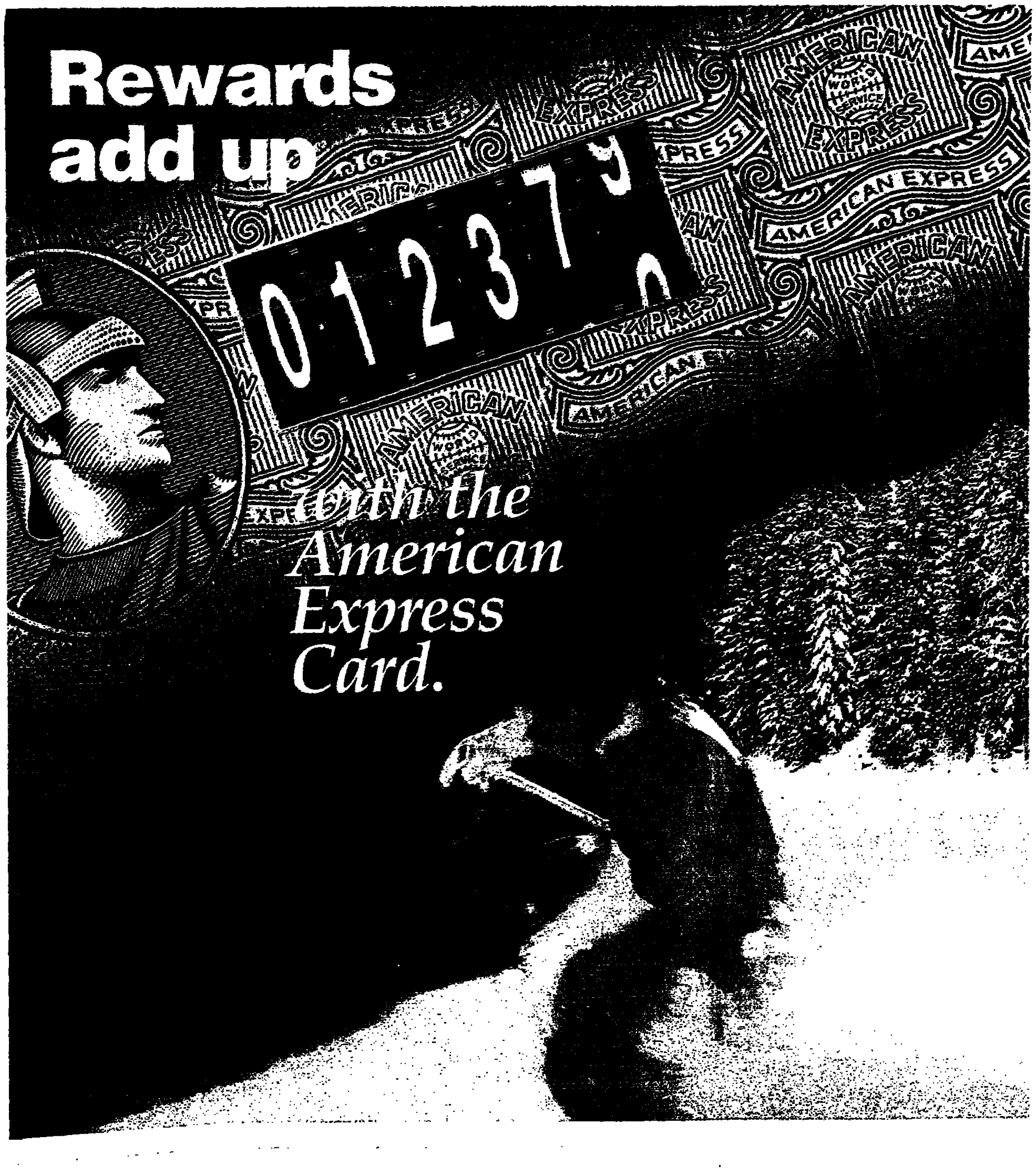
Adams to open US Sinn Fein office

BY OUR IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

GERRY ADAMS will open Sinn Fein's first office in the United States next week as the party tries to build on the unprecedented Irish-American support for the republican movement in Washington.

Mairead Keane, a leading member of Sinn Fein, will run the office. She has been given a brief to lobby members of the Administration and Congressional leaders. The office will also direct the party's new fund-raising wing in America, known as Friends of Sinn Fein, under the leadership of Kieran Staunton, who is from New York.

Ms Keane was head of Sinn Fein's women's department from 1987-93. She will aim to establish contact with members of the administration such as Anthony Lake, the President's national security adviser, and forge strong links with the Irish-American lobby, whose influence the party feels has been crucial in winning concessions.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Schoolgirl chorister sues cathedral for sex discrimination

By Marianne Darch

A GIRL aged 11 is to sue Winchester Cathedral for sexual discrimination after being refused the opportunity to join its all-male choir.

Jocelyn Edmondstone says her daughter Emily was prevented from taking entrance tests to join the choir's 22 members because of her gender. She will challenge the ecclesiastical statutes on which the 901-year-old cathedral based its ban.

The choir dates back to the 17th century and is one of the most celebrated in Britain. It regularly records for Decca and Virgin Classics and is to tour Australia and America later this year.

Emily, a pupil at King's School, Winchester, said: "I just want to be given a chance. I would not mind being the only girl in the choir but if I was allowed to sing with them I would hope other girls would be allowed in, too."

Emily plays the flute, piano and violin and has been a member of Hampshire County Childrens' Choir since 1992. Her mother said: "Emily certainly equals the calibre of the boy choristers."

Mrs Edmondstone, 47, of Winchester, will use the legal challenge as the basis for the special course project for her GCSE law examination. "I am looking at it from the legal aspect and I intend to prove on paper at least that they have contravened the law. I have been advised by solicitors how to challenge their decision. I will continue to whittle away at the law until I find a solution."

The Dean of Winchester Cathedral, the Very Rev Trevor Beeson, described the action as absurd. Mr Beeson, who supports the ordination of women, said lack of funds and inadequate dormitory facilities at the Cathedral Close school had delayed plans to introduce girl choristers. The cathedral has a £140,000 deficit and other pressing matters meant there would not be a separate choir for at least two years.

"We are all on the same side but you cannot just mix the sexes. We would love to have a girls' choir but it's just not feasible at the moment," Mr Beeson said.

David Hill, the cathedral's organist and Master of the Music, said: "I would not get the same sound as I get from the boys if I incorporated girls into the choir. It is a biological fact. The sound I get from boys is a much weightier one than from girls of the same age."

Mr Beeson said the need for separate choirs for male and female choristers was recognised throughout British cathedrals. Salisbury accepted girl choristers several years ago and formed the Salisbury Girls' Choral Foundation, which has received more than £500,000 in donations and grants. The 23-strong Bristol Cathedral Girls' Choir was started in October 1993.

JULIAN HERBERT

Emily Edmondstone, 11, wants to join the choir at Winchester Cathedral

Modern Church 'is feeble and unsure of beliefs'

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE Church today is enfeebled and unsure of what it believes, according to a leading preacher and former chaplain to the Queen.

Canon Cleverley Ford, retired senior chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, says churches and Christians "seem uncertain, divided if not confused, like the age in which we live".

At a time when most people lack of a sense of direction, when there is a contempt for authority and a fashion for "doing one's own thing", the outcome is "a sediment of meaninglessness about human existence in the midst of feverish activity", he says.

In *Preaching What We Believe*, to be published later this month, Canon Ford says there cannot be preaching without beliefs. "Even so, the preacher is not in the pulpit first of all as a teacher, not even of religious truths. He is there to help his hearers manage the complicated task of living today in a complicated and often depressing, world."

He said preaching could still appeal to the open mind and recognise that some questions are unanswerable without appearing "limp, if not lukewarm". Canon Ford says: "The preacher must believe in what he preaches and not merely assent to it. That is to say, it must come from the heart as well as from the head."

His book comes as *The Times* seeks entries for its Preacher of the Year award, being run with the College of Preachers, an ecumenical resource and training body. Nearly 500 preachers from all denominations have already sent in sermons or been nominated by their parishes for the award, the first of its kind in Britain.

A shortlist will be drawn up by judges chosen by the College of Preachers. As many preachers as possible will be visited in their churches and chapels in order to assess delivery as well as content.

The award was launched to help to raise the standard of preaching and to bring to public notice the dozens of preachers who regularly inspire and give hope to their congregations but are little known outside them.

Canon Ford says there is a feeling that the Church is not sure what it believes. "Maybe this is only partly true but in so far as it is, the witness of the Church in the modern world is enfeebled. We cannot preach unless we know what we believe."

He says preachers are more likely to gain a hearing if they are ready to admit there are questions to which they do not know the answers. In his book, where he tackles issues such as how to believe in the miracles, the Trinity and life after death in a post-Enlightenment age, he says Christian preachers must be alive to the need for reinterpretation, but unless they have firm convictions about the resurrection "they will lack the dynamism that makes for a wholesome Christian faith".

Canon Ford says there are some basics in Christian belief that are "not optional". He says: "Maybe they need to be handled in a new way if they are to be intelligible in the modern world, but they cannot be jettisoned."

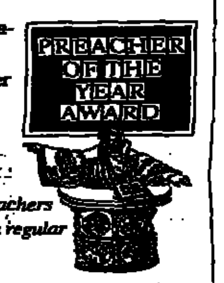
☐ *Preaching What We Believe* (Mowbray; £8.99)

THE TIMES

Put your preacher forward

READERS are invited to submit nominations or nominate themselves for the College of Preachers/The Times Preacher Of The Year award, with a first prize of £1,000 and a specially commissioned sculpture. Five runners-up will each receive £200.

The award is open to lay or ordained preachers aged over 18 of any UK Christian church with regular access to a pulpit or preaching platform.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I enclose a typed manuscript of a sermon by the preacher not exceeding 3,000 words (tapes are not acceptable).

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Entries must be received by March 31, 1995.

THE TIMES

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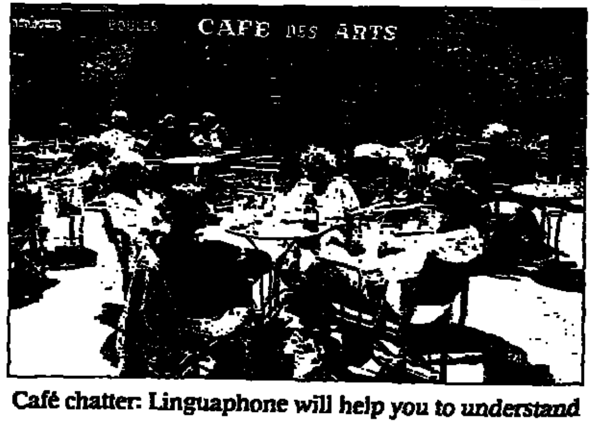

Café chatter: Linguaphone will help you to understand

APRIL is an ideal time of the year to visit the continent, and this week's offers from *The Times* will enable you to drive there cheaply with Le Shuttle, give you £20 of duty-free goods for 20p – and offer a special language deal with Linguaphone.

Linguaphone is the world's leading language tuition company. Collect the tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and you could buy up to three Traveller's Guides for just 20p each.

Traveller's Guides are available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Greek and Portuguese; they contain a 70-minute bilingual cassette and a printed guide to useful words and phrases. Buy one for £2.79, collect two tokens and you will be entitled to buy a second guide for just 20p.

With your guides you will receive a voucher worth £50 if you buy a full Linguaphone course. Full details of this offer, plus an application form, appeared on Tuesday.

The normal price for a five-day short break return crossing through the Channel tunnel on Le Shuttle in April is up to £150 – but we have pegged it at the winter rate of £75 until the end of the month for a car, driver and passengers. Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and complete the form which appeared on Tuesday and you will also qualify for the special duty-free offer. Travel must be completed by April 30 1995 and excludes April 14, 15 and 16. You must book at least ten days before you intend to travel. Full terms and conditions appeared on Tuesday.

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Britain sends first woman Ambassador to Vatican

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

BRITAIN'S first woman Ambassador to the Holy See is a committed Protestant churchgoer who supports women priests and is convinced the present Pope will survive into the next millennium.

In an interview with *The Times*, Maureen MacGlashan, 57, described some of the arguments against women priests in the Church of England as "crazy, not to say criminal". But she maintained a diplomatic silence on the separate issue of women priests in the Roman Catholic Church.

Miss MacGlashan leaves tomorrow for four weeks in Rome, then returns to England for a brief period before going to live in the official residence, where she will stay until she retires in 1998.

A graduate of Girton College, Cambridge, she will be the sixth woman ambassador to the Holy See. Others have come from Uganda, Mali, Singapore and Belize.

Her job will be to represent Britain at the Vatican and she is expected to concentrate on international political issues in which this country has a particular interest.

Miss MacGlashan said speculation that a new papacy might be imminent was premature. Questions have surrounded the health of Pope John Paul II but Miss MacGlashan said: "I do not think I will see a new Pope. Adrenalin will keep him going, I am certain. He absolutely wants to see the year 2000 in." She is a keen advocate of greater involvement of the laity in running the Church, and, although she has never actively campaigned on behalf of women priests in the Anglican Church, supports them in principle.

"For some time I was neutral. But in the recent debate in the Church of England, some of the arguments against were frankly so absolutely crazy, not to say criminal, that I have to be supportive. I can see no reason against it whatsoever," Miss MacGlashan said.

Regarding women priests in the Roman Catholic Church, she said: "I have opinions but it might be wiser not to express them. I think the Pope is absolutely determined that, even if women cannot be priests, they have an important place in the world." Miss MacGlashan joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1961 and her first overseas post was in Tel Aviv. She has also served in East Berlin, Brussels, Bucharest and Belgrade.

> ❛I think the Pope is absolutely determined that, even if women cannot be priests, they have an important place in the world❜

Of her choice as first woman Ambassador for Britain, she said: "I am used all my life to being the first woman in a given situation, so I tend to take it for granted, although I was pleased that as a woman I was acceptable in Rome. I do not know Rome very well but I am absolutely delighted with the job. It seems to be just about the best possible job in which to end one's career. It is a small mission with few responsibilities other than political ones. It is just me and my deputy."

Miss MacGlashan was baptised and confirmed as an Anglican, spent her teenage years as a Presbyterian and has recently been a member of the Scottish Episcopalian Church. She was once a member of a deanery synod in the Ely diocese.

Her aim is "to get on as good working terms as possible with the Vatican authorities in order that we can discuss and influence them on matters which are of interest to Great Britain.

"Northern Ireland obviously has been a very important one in the past and that will go on for some time to come. We have interests in Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union."

Alan Franks, At Your Service
Weekend, page 2

CHRIS HARRIS

Maureen MacGlashan describes the post as "just about the best possible job in which to end one's career"

Credo

Lent discipline and liberation

Brian Mountford

Lent is in danger of being the most prosaic season of the Church's year, associated in the popular mind with giving things up, such as sugar in tea, smoking, and fattening foods. In the West the austerities of fasting have gradually been eroded.

The model for Lent is of course Christ's 40 days of self-denial in the wilderness, where he resisted the temptation to turn stones into bread in order to ease his hunger, and rejected the devil's attempt to seduce him with the prospect of political power and the chance to win easy converts by showmanship — if he were to jump from the pinnacle of the temple and survive.

Christians today have to ask themselves what the period of Lent can usefully signify, and their answer will most likely be self-discipline, self-examination and penitence. But there is little point in proving to yourself that you can be self-disciplined if you want to, only to revert to the old ways after Easter. When at the beginning of his ministry Jesus called on people to repent, he was asking for a radical realignment of life. "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Lent therefore can be seen as a symbolic reminder of the discipline that rightly belongs to all Christian life — for example, fidelity in marriage, integrity in vocation, compassion in human relationships, and faithfulness in the worship of God. It will be characterised most of all by Christian love and the positive virtue of looking for the good in others.

There is a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer which says that to serve God is perfect freedom. That means that Christian discipline is not so much a chaperon to keep a person away from life's pleasures, as a liberator. With Christian discipline life can be more fulfilling and more rewarding, because the values of self-giving love that Christ teaches, for instance in the Sermon on the Mount, are those which ultimately matter.

Far from being an end in itself — *the hair shirt of the masochist* — Lent is the preparation for Easter. It reminds us that before he revealed the glory of the resurrection Jesus obediently drank from the bitter cup, which in Gethsemane he had asked God to let pass from him, and accepted that he must suffer the agony and despair of crucifixion.

Those who admire the charismatic ability of a Desmond Tutu or a Mother Teresa to present Christianity as a lively and transforming faith in the modern world must remember that their spiritual authority comes from the Lenten discipline of having faithfully undertaken compassionate, and sometimes politically dangerous, work in townships and slums.

Lent is not the prosaic season of negatives after all but the creative affirmation of the values of faith, hope, and love, which are the foundations of Christian freedom.

It could be summed up by St Augustine's maxim, "Love and do what you like". If a person has truly accepted God's love, their purpose will naturally harmonise with his.

☐ *Brian Mountford is Vicar of the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford.*

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Enter the brave new man of the Left, sponsored by Tesco

Galloway: barnstorming appeal for Clause Four

■ Magnus Linklater finds Tony Blair's call for change won minds but not hearts at the Scottish Labour Party conference

IF ANYTHING illustrated the way in which the Labour Party has changed its style, it was the arrival of its leader at his Scottish conference in Inverness on Thursday night.

Whisked from the airport, he was ushered straight into a *reception sponsored by* ... Tesco; not the TGWU, not Unison, not even Charter 88, but the supermarket giant whose name still evokes the image of Dame Shirley Porter.

Elsewhere around the conference hall there was more evidence of Labour's new clothes. Stalls for privatised companies such as BT, British Gas and Scottish Nuclear stood alongside those for the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties and the National *Asthma Campaign*. The technology was all lap-tops and mobile telephones. The talk was of empowerment and trust.

Even the Gaelic translation of the party name has been *updated. It is now Laboraich Ur do dh'Alba:* the New Labour Party of Scotland.

All this might suggest that the Scottish comrades, last bastion of the reluctant tendency, have finally thrown in *their hand with Tony Blair* and his reforming process. And the result of last night's vote, which went the leader's way, appeared to confirm it. But never judge a man by his clothes (and I use the masculine gender advisedly).

As Mr Blair reached the *climax of his speech yesterday* afternoon, one thing became abundantly clear. You can bring the delegates to the floor but you can't bring them to their feet.

However resounding the *phrases or inspiring the rhetoric*, you either carry an audience with you or you don't. And Mr *Blair* didn't.

He stood expectantly at the podium as his clarion call for unity died away and listened as a round of applause that can best be described as lukewarm rippled around the hall, then died away. Down among the delegates those remaining resolutely on their seats were as conspicuous in their silent protest as those who stood to clap.

For the leader of a party which stands 40 per cent ahead in the polls, which is building towards a triumphant election, and which was meeting in its rock-solid heartland, this looked like a *rebuff*.

But then Mr Blair was talking about Clause Four and he *did*, after *all*, win the crucial vote. Whether he won the hearts of those who heard *him* is another matter altogether.

The contrast with the next *speaker*, George Galloway, MP for Glasgow Hillhead, who made a barnstorming appeal in favour of retaining the clause, could not have been more marked.

It is hard to pin down why *the Scottish Labour Party* is different, but it is; or rather, perhaps, one should say the party as represented by its West of Scotland constituency organisations and the unions. They backed Clause Four *because it stands for what* they nostalgically wish the party still was.

One union delegate I spoke to was appalled that there had been a debate on the issue at all. "We've never needed one in the past. Why now?" he demanded. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

He recognised that the leader of the party had to be supported, he wanted Labour to win the next election, but he said that in the end it was "the members' party, not the *leader's party*".

When I asked him who he thought the *members* were, he said they were the full-time officials.

And here, I think, *lies part* of the clue to the lacklustre *response to Mr Blair's* speech. His changes may represent the way forward for a modern social democratic party, but for old-style party activists they spell the undermining of a structure that has kept them and their organisations in unquestioned power for a generation.

An example of that took place yesterday morning when a platform resolution was unexpectedly overturned by a show of hands from the floor.

Hurriedly, a card vote was called for. That, too, went the wrong way. My union friend, shaking his head, said: "That would never have happened in the old days. We'd have had it well sewn up."

No more, I think.

Ghosts of politics past summoned to witness struggle for 'soul of the Labour party'

Scots discard Clause 4 in pursuit of government

By Gillian Bowditch, scotland correspondent

A PROCESSION of Labour luminaries, including Keir Hardie, Harold Wilson and Jim Callaghan, were invoked in Inverness yesterday as left-wing socialists fought to keep Clause Four of Labour's constitution, which commits the party to common ownership.

An equally committed group argued for a new Clause Four that would free the party of the obligation to renationalise the privatised industries. *With only a handful of delegates determining* the outcome of the vote, speakers on both sides knew that their rhetoric could be enough to secure victory.

George Galloway, MP for *Glasgow Hillhead*, made the *most impassioned plea to keep the present* Clause Four. "We are being asked to ditch something dear to us when we don't have in front of us the text that's going to replace it. However nice the butcher is, and he is nice, nobody buys a pig in a poke," he told cheering delegates.

"We are not just being asked to buy something, we are being asked to sell something as well. We are being asked to sell the banner which has flown in Scotland with great success, a banner which is showing no sign of becoming unpopular.

"Clause Four has never meant nationalising Marks & Spencer. It has never meant nationalising the corner shop. Clause Four is a glimpse of the possible, a glimpse of what could be."

Mary Picken, of Glasgow Maryhill constituency party, said: "I am in favour of keeping Clause Four because I am in favour of change and because I believe in progress. Clause Four represents the best chance of delivering the kind of country we want to see. The Labour Party is not in the business of managing the Tory economy better than the Tories. We are pledged to deliver full employment, to delivering social justice. Clause Four is about our socialist principles."

Dennis Canavan, MP for Falkirk West, accused the Labour leadership of a "hidden agenda" in its plans for *reforming Clause Four*. "We support common-ownership when it is the status quo. But we are not the party of the status quo. We are the party of change: radical, socialist change."

Tony Blair sat stony faced on the rostrum as delegate after delegate argued for retaining Clause Four, which Tony Benn called "the soul of the Labour Party". But the leader's mood lightened as speakers arguing for reform echoed his words that "we must say what we mean and mean what we say".

Helen Liddell, Labour's newest MP, who replaced John Smith in Monklands *East*, argued that only a change to Clause Four would allow the party the power it needed to change people's lives. "I am appalled at our conservatism. I want our politicians to try and change society.

"How can we persuade people that we can do that if we are not prepared to change ourselves?" Mary McCormack, of the Western Isles constituency party, felt that constitutional change was a necessity to ensure victory at the next general election. "I am sick to death of working hard between elections only to see the party fall down at the last hurdle.

"*Nothing stands still*, not even the authorised version of the Bible. That was changed years ago. Don't condemn the new Clause Four before you have actually seen it. Let us show that our new Four equals No. 10."

Blair victorious, page 1

Wilson: invoked

IAN WALDIE

Tony Blair beside the River Ness before the debate. He sat stony-faced on the rostrum as delegate after delegate spoke for Clause Four

Scottish women reject the old boys' network

By Gillian Bowditch

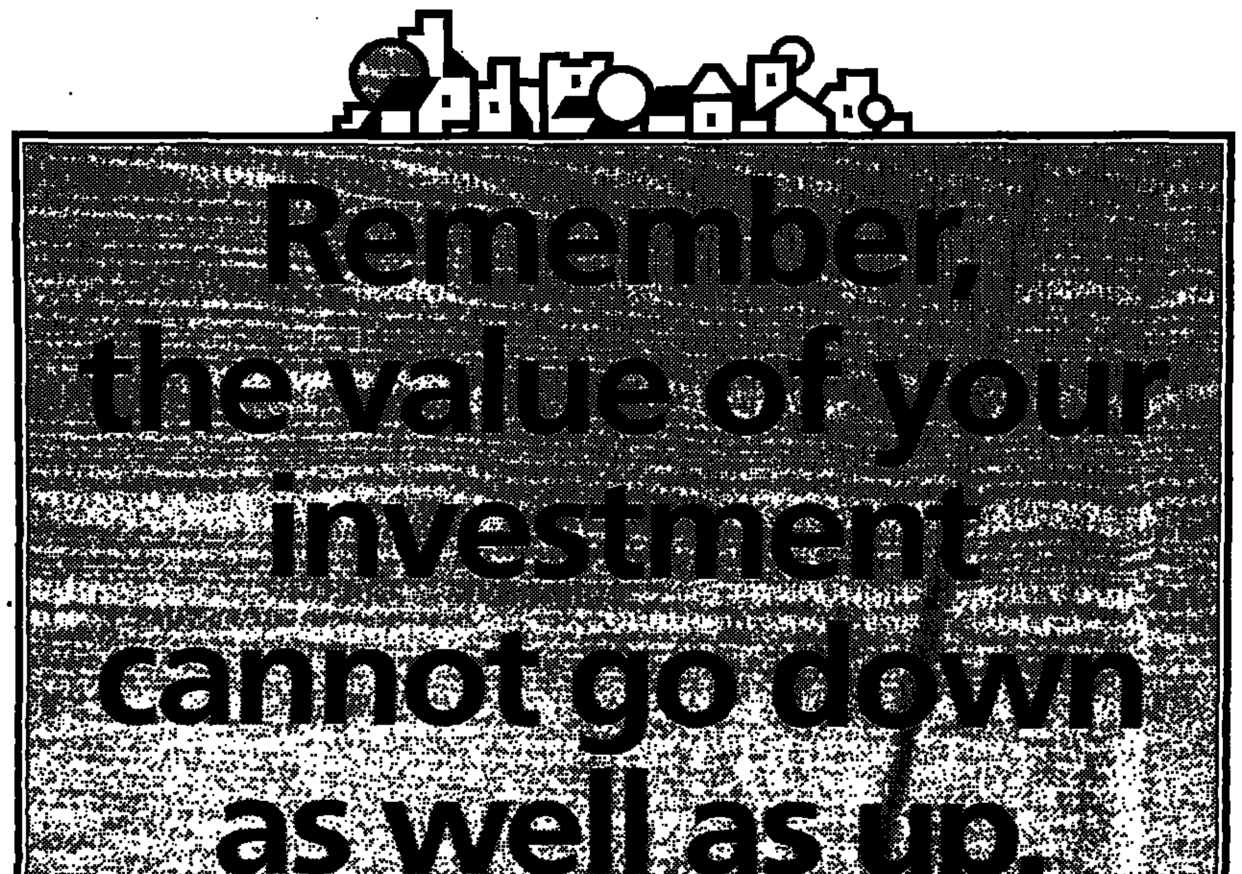
WOMEN in the Scottish Labour Party unveiled their *vision of a* Scottish parliament yesterday which rejected the old boys' network and the gentleman's club atmosphere of Westminster.

The new Scottish parliament, the first for 300 years, would have sensible working hours and an equal number of men and women MPs. But the Labour Party in Scotland has shied away from legislation to guarantee an equal number of men and women. *Instead the Labour Party and* the Liberal Democrats had hammered out a compromise that gives an "electoral contract" to accept the principle of equal representation.

The compromise deal will be a huge relief to the Labour leadership, which would have found the implementation of legislation guaranteeing a gender balance almost impossible. But the compromise has left many women in the Scottish Labour Party angry. They believe a gender balance will not be achieved without statutory legislation.

Mary Picken, of Glasgow Maryhill constituency Labour Party, told the conference: "Voluntarism doesn't work. A Scottish parliament gives the chance for Labour to lead the way."

Behind the scenes, the Scottish Constitutional Convention has hammered out a compromise deal. Canon Kenyon Wright, chairman of the executive committee of the Scottish Constitutional Convention, says the agreement would lead to both parties selecting and fielding equal numbers of male and female candidates for election.



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MP warns Tories of electoral disaster

By Nicholas Wood
chief political correspondent

THE Conservatives are in danger of suffering their worst election defeat ever, a party grandee said yesterday.

Amid mounting despair in senior Tory circles at the Government's apparent inability to recover in the opinion polls, Sir Patrick Cormack, an MP for 25 years and a loyalist on the Left of the party, said the Tories could pay a heavy price for their squabbling over Europe. He was joined by David Wilshire, another loyalist, in voicing the private fears of many ministers and MPs.

Mr Wilshire, MP for Spelthorne, said the Government should "stop fudging", and — in a move borrowing from the Republicans' election-winning manifesto in November's American Congressional elections — called for a "Contract with Britain" setting out core policies.

After a false dawn in January, the Tories are again trailing Labour by about 30 points in the polls and there are no signs of any pick-up either in their ratings or those of John Major. Backbenchers and ministers are now bracing themselves for losses of over 1,000 Tory seats in the May council elections in England. Sir Patrick, MP for Staffordshire South, said in a speech in Edinburgh: "Unless some of my colleagues can learn to practise a self-denying ordinance and realise that bickering today spells doom tomorrow, the Conservative Party may go down to the most catastrophic defeat in its history at the next general election."

Major sets up reaction group to exploit Opposition turmoil

By Nicholas Wood, chief political correspondent

JOHN Major has set up a team of senior ministers and advisers to exploit Labour's controversial plans for sweeping reform of the constitution.

The group, headed by Viscount Cranborne, Leader of the Lords, has been ordered to respond quickly to what the Prime Minister regards as weaknesses and inconsistencies in Tony Blair's plans for Scottish and Welsh devolution and for regional assemblies in England.

Mr Major acted this week out of frustration at what he regarded as the failure of the party machine to set the political agenda by capitalising on Mr Blair's backtracking over assemblies.

Lord Cranborne, one of the Cabinet's most ardent unionists, had been badgering the Prime Minister for three months to set up what has been dubbed in Whitehall as a "rapid reaction force" to take on Labour over its plans.

After Mr Blair escaped virtually unscathed from a *Sunday newspaper interview* in which he admitted there was no consensus for regional assemblies, Mr Major decided to give Lord Cranborne his head. The new group includes Sophie McEwan, Lord Cranborne's adviser, Hywel Williams, adviser to John Redwood at the Welsh Office, Gregor Mackay, Ian Lang's adviser at the Scottish Office, and Rachel Whetstone, Michael Howard's adviser at the Home Office.

The group's task is to scrutinise any twists and turns in Labour's stance over the constitution and swiftly to deploy Mr Redwood, Mr Lang or Mr Howard before the television *cameras to exploit* any confusion. Mr Major's decision to set up the group is understood to reflect disappointment that Conservative Central Office and the daily meetings of business managers and *Richard* Ryder, the Chief Whip, has not made more political capital from Mr Blair's backtracking.

Yesterday, the *Labour leader* was in full retreat from plans for English assemblies, prompting accusations from Mr Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, that Labour was in an even greater muddle.

Mr Blair said he was "completely committed" to a Scottish Parliament and a Welsh assembly, but elected regional assemblies in England did not attract the same degree of popular support.

He wanted a "step-by-step process of devolving power to people", but added that assemblies could not be introduced without first reorganising local government. "There is a desire to take power closer to people. People are very worried about the quango state the Conservatives have created," Mr Blair told BBC Radio's *Today* programme.

"But there are a whole range of changes that would be necessary before you are able to introduce regional assemblies. That is not to say that is not a desirable objective at some point in the future, but we are not committed to doing that now."

Mr Redwood said Mr Blair was confused over his party's proposals for regional assemblies. "Here is a man who does not know his own mind and who is leading a party that does not know its own mind." Plans for a new industrial development agency in the North East, floated by Mr Blair in his interview as an example of bringing power closer to people, could be a "bureaucratic monster", the Welsh Secretary added.

Tracking Blair: Cranborne, left, and Redwood

هكذا من الاصل

Poacher and river bailiff renew battle as elvers return

By Michael Hornsby, countryside correspondent

THE annual battle between poachers and bailiffs along the eel-rich rivers of the West Country is approaching its climax as shoals of elvers make their spring-tide run up the Bristol Channel.

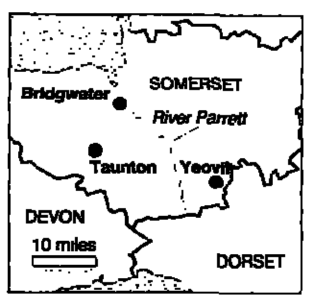
Rewards for catching the baby eels are high, with dealers willing to pay up to £20 a lb for live fish. When the tides are right, skilled elverers can earn as much as £1,000 in a single night. Little of that is declared.

People living along the River Parrett, which runs into the Bristol Channel through Bridgwater in Somerset, have been writing to the *Bridgwater Mercury*, with complaints of illegal fishing, intimidation and even violence as fishermen compete for the lucrative catch.

Dealers park their vans, equipped with oxygenated water tanks, in narrow lanes alongside the river. The fish are exported by truck and air to the rest of Europe, mainly Germany, The Netherlands and Spain. The Spanish fry elvers in olive oil and eat them like whitebait but elsewhere they are imported to restock rivers and lakes.

Stephen Williams, who lives near the river, said: "You have got a mafia system with thugs claiming to own stretches of the bank. Last month, one lad was beaten up by four men and thrown into the river. He was accused of encroaching on their territory."

Elverers regularly use illegally large nets and fish without paying the annual £33 licence fee, according to Mr Williams. "The National Rivers Authority (NRA), which is supposed to police the fishery, simply does not have enough bailiffs to do the job and is unaware of what is going on."



The NRA admits there is a "hooligan element" at work but says the problem is much exaggerated. So far this year only four people on the Parrett have been detected committing offences. Steve Waugh, an NRA bailiff, spent four hours patrolling the banks of the Parrett with three other officials on Thursday night. The best catches are made during the two hours either side of high tide and at night, when the elvers are most active.

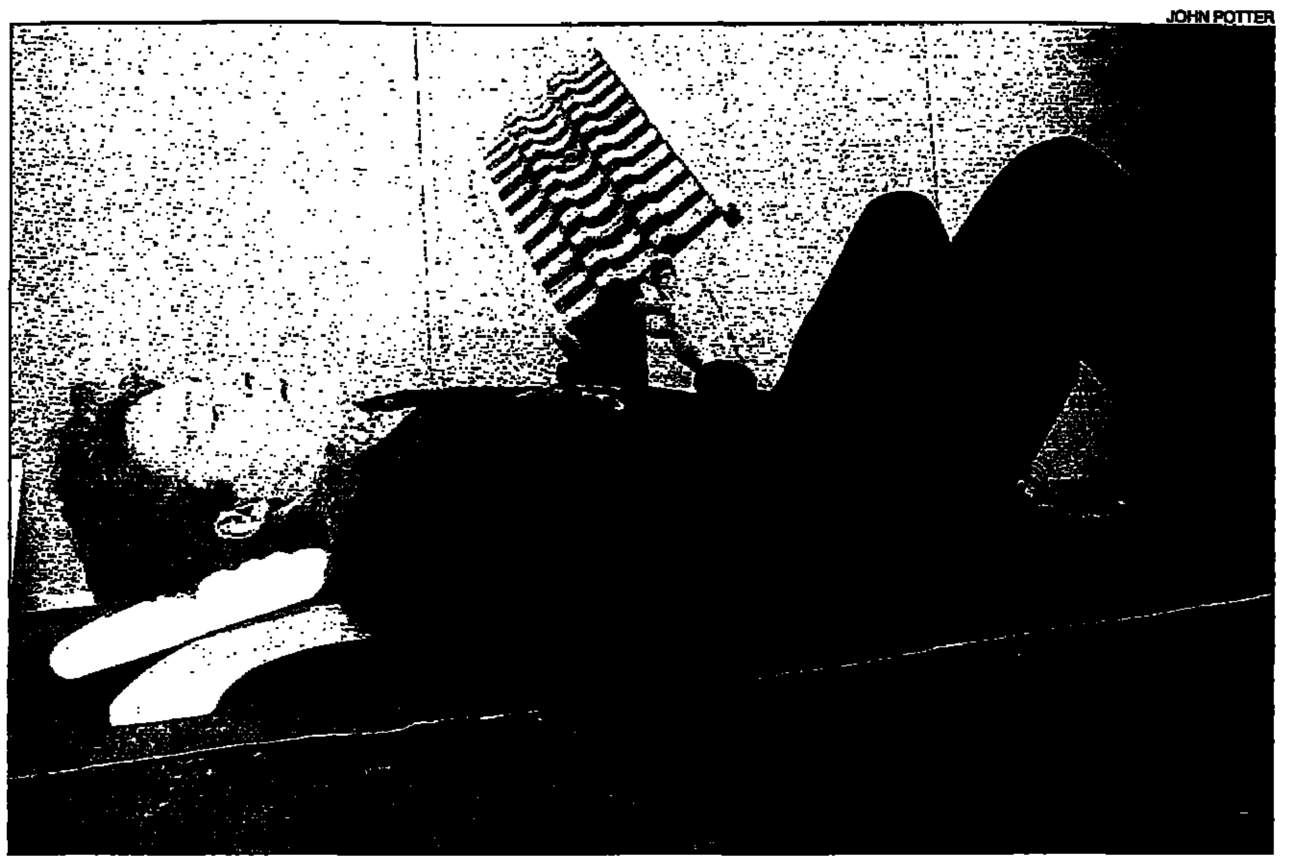
"We were equipped with night-vision equipment and were looking for illegal 'flow nets', which are strung across the whole width of the river," Mr Waugh said. "We came across no more than 15 elverers and all were fishing within the law using hand-held nets."

Scientists are still learning about the life-cycle of the eel. The creatures live for up to 15 years in European rivers and are then thought to migrate 3,000 miles across the Atlantic to the Sargasso Sea, west of the Caribbean, where they spawn and die.

The leaf-like larvae drift back to Europe on oceanic currents, taking up to three years to make the journey, by which time they have metamorphosed into the translucent, 3in-long elvers, also known as glass eels. Within five years of returning to freshwater they grow to 30 inches and darken in colour.

The elver population has fallen throughout Europe over the past 20 years. In the late 1970s the annual catch on the Severn was about 80 tons but is now less than 20.

JOHN POTTER



Neil Summers demonstrates his back stretcher, a frame that exercises the muscles linking the vertebrae

Back pain leads to invention of year

By Nick Nuttall, technology correspondent

A DEVICE developed by a former Royal Marine to ease back pain has beaten a barbecue in a briefcase and a seat-belt for dogs to win the invention of the year award. Neil Summers, of Guildford, Surrey, was presented with a £10,000 cheque yesterday for his patented Ultimate Back Stretcher.

Mr Summers, 32, developed the wood-framed device, which has two rows of ribs that massage the back muscles, after being discharged from the Marines with chronic back pain. He decided on the shape of the stretcher, which is priced at £86, after studying physiology at Springfield College, Massachusetts.

The back stretcher is on show at the Great British Innovations and Inventions Fair at NEC, Birmingham, over the weekend with a host of weird and wonderful products, ranging from the Bin Tidy, a cabinet for hiding unsightly wheelie bins, to Eezie Hold, described as a device for "stabilising Chinese takeaways in a moving car".

George Friend, of Birmingham, has developed for the peckish executive with a penchant for the flame-grilled a barbecue in a briefcase, which he believes could transform outdoor entertaining and business lunches. The barbecue cools to the touch in 10 seconds after the gas flame is out.

Several inventions at the fair are concerned with bicycles, including a battery-powered unit that operates indicators at the flick of a handle-bar switch.

A Derbyshire inventor has designed a car seatbelt attachment for dogs called HollyJack. A restraining buckle on the rear seat-belt clips onto the dog collar to keep a pet in place.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
The world's most stylish women

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Part-time worker was standing in for colleague when robbers blasted him in the chest

Petrol pump attendant shot for £100

By Emma Wilkins

John Duddell, who was shot dead at his garage job, pictured with one of his dogs. To the garage owner, David Williams, he was the perfect employee

A PETROL *pump attendant* who was shot dead for £100 by two robbers had changed his shift at the last minute to help a friend.

John Duddell, 46, an electronics engineer, volunteered for the evening shift as a favour to the regular attendant, who was sitting a music examination. Mr Duddell, of Market Drayton, Shropshire, was shot in the chest at close range at the Jet petrol station *north of Newport*, near Telford, on Thursday at about 8.30pm. Two men wearing baseball caps were seen driving away from the garage on the A41 towards Newport.

Inspector Terry Lowe, of West Mercia Police, said that the incident had been very distressing and local people *were shocked*. "It was a very violent crime for a very small amount of money."

Mr Duddell's stepson, Mark, 21, said that he was a happy family man and a keen dog-owner; his Canerike deerhounds had won prizes at dog shows including Crufts. "My dad was such a quiet family man, he never harmed anyone or anything. He was an ordinary bloke who loved my mum and adored his prize dogs."

Mrs Duddell, 45, who had been showing the dogs in Scotland, was on *her* way home yesterday after speaking to her son by telephone. "She is heartbroken. I'm not sure she will ever recover," he said.

Mr Duddell, who worked at the Central Ordnance Depot at Donnington, took the part-time garage job because he liked meeting people. "He loved his job. He didn't need the money but he just liked speaking to people," his stepson said.

"Words cannot describe the *feelings* I *have* for *the people* who have done this to him. It was such a meaningless thing to do because *my father* would never have threatened them. He was not like that. They have taken away a wonderful man and broken up his family."

Detectives are investigating a possible connection between the murder and a recent burglary in the area when guns were stolen from a house. The murder weapon, believed *to be a 12-bore shot*gun, has not been recovered.

The British Oil Industry has *offered a reward of £10,000* for information.

The garage, which has only four pumps, is owned by David Williams, 57, who lives next door. He was alerted by witnesses and rushed to the cash cubicle, where he found Mr Duddell dead.

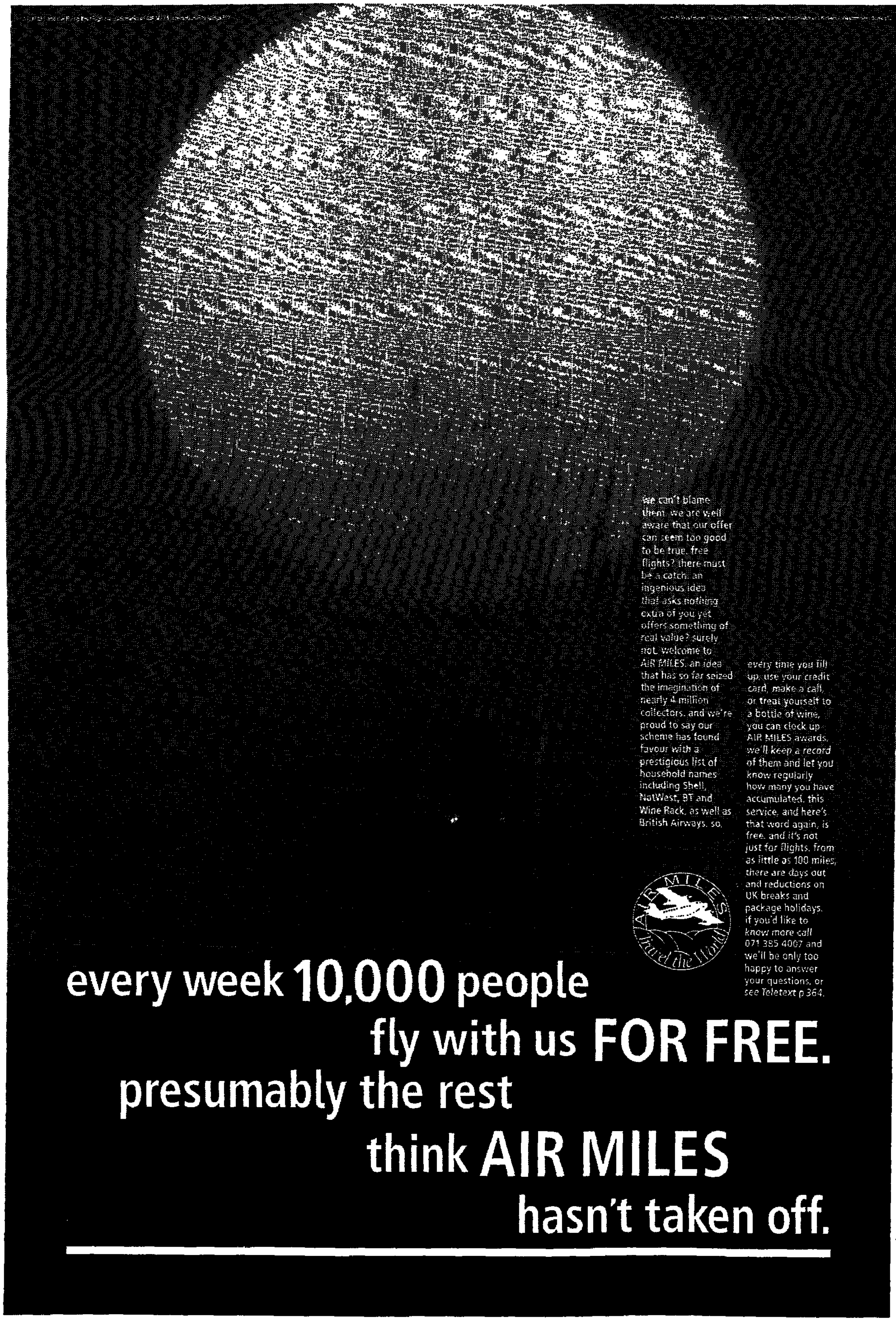
Mr Williams said: "He was such a placid man who would *never* have raised a finger to *anyone, even if they* were trying to rob him. I cannot believe this has happened. *John* was *the* perfect gentleman and everyone who came in here loved him."

Mr Williams added: "John had a good full-time job as well as working here but he just came to the petrol station because he liked the difference. He loved talking to people and would have obliged anyone.

"He was the perfect employee *and would do anything to* help. He was not supposed to work the night he died but was standing in for someone."

"In the 35 years I have owned this garage I have had robberies like anyone, but never with firearms. *It is such* a tragedy that it had to come to this."

Police gave descriptions of two men seen driving away from the garage by several people. The driver is described as in his early 20s, white, slim, *5ft 8in to* 5ft 10in, with a long thin face and in dark clothing and a dark baseball cap. His passenger *was also in his* early 20s, 5ft 8in to 5ft 9in, and also wearing a dark baseball cap.



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Adoption couple must stress ethnic root

A SCOTS couple have been allowed to adopt two Asian children on condition they teach them of their ethnic *origins*.

The judge yesterday overruled the wishes of the natural parents that the children, a girl, 7, and her brother, 6, should not be adopted by the couple who had fostered them for six years. Lord Marnoch, at the Court of Session, Edinburgh, ruled in a written judgment: "The petitioners *shall* use their best endeavours to secure that the children will be made aware of their black identity and brought up with an understanding of *their* ethnic origins and traditions."

The judge said that the S *family had come to the atten*tion of Strathclyde social services in 1988, when the two children were taken into care. It was accepted that the couple had cared for the them extremely well.

The judge said it had been *argued on behalf of the natu*ral parents that the risk of the ethnic link being inadequately cultivated was such that custody orders should be made rather than adoption. However, he said: "I am satisfied that they have been *fully aware of the need to keep* the children in touch with their ethnic culture and origins and *have done* everything within their power to secure that end."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Irish MPs pass Bill on abortion

A Bill to make more information available in Ireland about *overseas abortion services* was approved in the Dail yesterday. It will go before the Senate next week and is expected to be referred afterwards to the Supreme Court. The Government, which proposed the Bill, says it is in line with a referendum decision three years ago. About 4,500 Irish women each year go to Britain for abortions.

Air crash verdict

A lifting hook striking a rock and becoming caught in a helicopter's tail rotor was the probable cause of the crash in *Ballachulish. Highland*, last December in which the two-man crew were killed, an official accident report said.

£8,600 weddings

A formal wedding costs an average £8,653, according to replies from 2,000 readers of *Wedding and Home*. The bridal *dress* was £679, engagement ring £546, wedding ring £133, photographer £352, flowers £214 and reception £2,426.

Victims buried

Rachel Rooney, 15, and Jonathan Copley, 7, the babysitter and boy murdered in Bradford last month, were buried yesterday. Rachel's *friends* were given the day off school to accompany teachers to her funeral.

Murder sentence

Christopher Kirby, 32, of *Stockton-on-Tees*, was jailed for 14 years in Oslo for murdering a homosexual Norwegian *doctor* by *stabbing* him at least 20 times.

Poster cleared

The *Advertising Standards* Authority has ruled that a poster for the film *Disclosure* showing a passionate embrace does not breach its code of conduct.

Man lay dead

A verdict of natural death was recorded on Clifford *Crampton, 66, of Gateshead*, Tyne and Wear, who lay dead in his living room for up to five months before being found.

Track collision

A woman died after a car veered *off* the *M23* and plunged 40ft down a railway embankment into the path of a train at Pease Pottage, West Sussex. A man was badly hurt.

M4 closure

A *four-mile stretch of the M4* in Berkshire between junctions 11 and 12 is to be closed from 8pm tonight until midday tomorrow for a bridge over the road to be dynamited.

Father 'killed three children in fire'

By Paul Wilkinson

AN UNEMPLOYED father of three whose wife was expecting another child set fire to their two-bedroomed council home in an attempt to be *rehoused, a court was told* yesterday.

Graeme Alderton, 30, sprinkled turpentine around the *hallway in the early hours* and made no attempt to wake his sleeping family. While he escaped almost unscathed his daughters Charlotte, 4, and Amy, 3, and their 12-month-old brother Dean died upstairs. Lisa Alexander, his common-law wife, saved herself by jumping from a first-floor window, suffering multiple *cuts and bruising*, Teesside Crown Court was told.

"Alderton must have fore*seen that his actions would* bring about death and injury," Paul Worsley, QC, for the prosecution, said. "His intent was sufficient for murder."

Alderton denies murdering his children at their home in Peterlee, Co Durham, on 22 February. He also denies the attempted murder of his wife and arson with wreckless en*dangerment to life. The trial* was adjourned until today.

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Cynical residents expect little from Major's Gaza visit

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN GAZA CITY

MUHAMMAD HAMADI, a ten-year-old, was employed round the clock yesterday in Gaza with other workers to finish painting a fleet of British Land Rovers that John Major is to present to the Palestinian police next week.

The boy had no doubt where the vehicles should be used. "I hope that they will one day be patrolling in Al Quds [Jerusalem]. I am ready to die for our right to be in Jerusalem," he said.

He has gone to work — for about £4 a week — to help to feed his family since Israel's closure of its borders to most of the 40,000 Arab workers from the Gaza Strip. This left his family without enough cash for food. At ten, his schooldays are virtually over.

The steely look in his eyes showed his seriouness about Jerusalem, and raised the question of whether he would soon be recruited as a suicide-bomber by Hamas, whose militant solgans covered nearby walls. A 2ft-deep lake of untreated sewage was evidence of the appalling living conditons that have made recruitment easy for the Islamic zealots.

The gleaming vehicles are part of a fleet of 50 that the Prime Minister will present to the Palestine Liberation Organisation. But the probability of the Land Rovers being involved in violent incidents has led British officials to try to scupper a plan to affix a Union Jack on each vehicle.

Despite the gift and the significance of Mr Major's decision to spend most of Tuesday in Gaza, the visit is being treated coolly by Palestinians. "If you think the people of Gaza will open their arms for John Major, you are wrong, because the Palestinian people do not think, frankly, that Britain has contributed greatly to the Palestinian cause," said Marwan Kanafani, chief spokesman for Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman.

Mr Kanafani was pessimistic that Mr Major would be able to influence Israel over the three basic demands that the Prime Minister would be asked to pass on by Mr Arafat — the implementation of Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank, the release of Palestinian prisoners, and the holding of Palestinian elections.

Despite the huge security surrounding Mr Major's party, he will see for himself the extent of Gaza's squalor. He will vist Beach Camp, home to 50,000 refugees, and will drive on roads for the most part unpaved and covered in choking dust. In the Gaza heat, the stench is overpowering.

☐ **Arafat denial:** Israeli claims yesterday of a breakthrough in the stalled talks with the PLO were denied by Mr Arafat. "We did not arrive at any results," he said after a meeting in Gaza with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, who is trying to restart the talks. But Mr Christopher was successful in persuading Israel to lift its month-old sea blockade off south Lebanon, and was thanked by Rafik Hariri, the Lebanese Prime Minister, for his efforts. Israeli gunboats imposed the blockade in order to force the Lebanese Army to ease checks on travellers to Israel's so-called security zone in southern Lebanon. Fishermen were barred from sailing more than half-a-mile from Tyre, Sidon and Damour.

A Lebanese fisherman in Sidon washes his boat yesterday as Israel lifted a month-long fishing blockade in the port

Battle for Kabul escalates

Kabul: Tank and infantry clashes broke out yesterday between gunmen of the Taleban students' movement and a Shia faction in the southwest of the beleaguered Afghan capital.

"The Taleban started fighting with the Shias around the old Russian Embassy and Darulaman Palace," a Defence Ministry source said. The exchanges started after the Shia Hezb-i-Wahdat faction refused to surrender heavy weapons as demanded by Taleban. "The Taleban is trying to disarm Wahdat now," the source said.

Taleban entered the Shia-controlled southwest of Kabul at the invitation of Hezb-i-Wahdat on Wednesday, apparently on the understanding that it would be taking over Shia front lines and heavy weapons. However, it appeared that Wahdat commanders wanted to use Taleban to bolster their defences in the five-day fighting with forces loyal to President Rabbani. Wahdat has not yet yielded all its positions to Taleban. *(AFP)*

Karachi mosque blast kills 12

Karachi: A bomb blast outside a Shia Muslim mosque in Karachi killed 12 people, including five children, and wounded 26 after midday prayers yesterday, hospital sources said.

The explosion hurled shrapnel and shards of glass into worshippers in the religiously mixed eastern Malir district of the southern Pakistani city.

Three people were later killed in gunfire which erupted after Shia youths took to the streets in protest. Police said they believed the bomb had been planted in a car parked near the mosque. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The blast, which took this year's death toll from violence in Pakistan's biggest city to more than 300, came after a series of revenge attacks by militant Sunni and Shia Muslim groups.

Witnesses said green-turbaned Sunni activists from a neighbouring mosque were among the first to come to the rescue of the Shia bomb victims. Appeals for blood donations were broadcast from the loudspeaker of the Sunni mosque.

The dead included children aged between two and 12, and several of the wounded were in a critical condition, the hospital sources said. *(Reuter)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

US apology for Tokyo fire raid

Tokyo: Walter Mondale yesterday became the first American Ambassador to Japan to attend the annual commemoration of the Tokyo fire-bomb air raid (Gwen Robinson writes). Incendiary bombs razed about a fifth of the city and killed an estimated 100,000 people on the night of March 9, 1945. Before attending the 50th anniversary ceremony, Mr Mondale expressed sorrow for the attack, which he described as "that great human tragedy".

Appeal fails

Berlin: An appeal by Erich Mielke, 87, former head of the Stasi security police, against a six-year jail sentence for murdering two policemen, before Hitler's rise to power, was rejected. *(Reuter)*

Drug 'suicide'

Brussels: Jacques Lefebvre, 64, a retired Belgian Air Force general linked to a defence contract scandal, died from a drug overdose in an apparent suicide, the public prosecutor confirmed. *(Reuter)*

Thai king ill

Bangkok: King Bhumibol, 67, the world's longest-reigning monarch, is to enter hospital after suffering heart problems, Thai Government television announced. *(AFP)*

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WASTING ENERGY COSTS THE EARTH

Issued by the Department of the Environment

German minister finds that mad cows and one cook too many can damage a healthy career

A beef in the meat market

BONN FILE

by ROGER BOYES

A BASIC, though rarely acknowledged, human right is that of a master chef to choose his own menu. But when the chef caters for hungry members of parliament — some of whom probably only signed up for the food — the matter is not so clear-cut. And when British beef is involved, you can be sure that German passions will be stirred, if not stir-fried. Helmut Zipner, chef and culinary servant to the Schleswig-Holstein parliament, decided last summer that no British, or indeed German, beef would be served in his canteen. The risk that Mad Cow Disease would spread not only to humans, but also to politicians, was simply too high. He improvised a menu that successfully persuaded the carnivorous deputies that there was life beyond beefburger, broiled beef, beef balls and beef ghoulash. The Agriculture Ministry was deeply unhappy. The mad cow scare in Germany has caused not only a collapse in British imports, but also in the German meat trade.

No amount of photographs of Horst Seehofer, the Health Minister, munching German schnitzels, could persuade the public otherwise. Nothing has been able to persuade the Germans that beef is safe and clean again. And so, Herr Zipner was squeezed and kneaded by the farmers' lobby and the Agriculture Minister. Parliament had to set an example: beef must return to the menu. Eventually, Herr Zipner decided that this was a matter of conscience. He resigned. But the deputies were enraged on his behalf, and more than 550 signed a petition demanding his reinstatement. The man who set this foodie revolt in train is Herr Seehofer. This time last year, he seemed like one of the rising stars of the Christian Social Union. But he appears to have been ditched by mad cows. First he whipped up a national panic about the disease, came close to breaking European law by banning some British beef, and then accepted a European compromise under which some British cows can be imported.

But few Germans are convinced that the new safeguards are sufficient, and are reluctant to buy meat. Rural voters are complaining that the gangling 45-year-old politician has turned Germany into a land of vegetarians and destroyed the meat trade. Nothing is going right for the former whizzkid.

He has, meanwhile, complained to Bonn police about prostitutes prowling outside the Health Ministry. His workers, including Aids and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy experts, have been accosted by kerb-crawlers. The nickname for the improbable Street of Shame is: the "Meat Market".

Party ends in a Trabant jam

THE press spokesman of the ex-Communist Party of Democratic Socialism is in the doghouse. Hanno Harnisch, a lumbering figure in a safari jacket who laughed at his own jokes, was swigging vodka at a Berlin party. After a drink or three, he made his way into the fresh air and realised in a fuzzy kind of way that he didn't know how to get home. It was cold. A bright red Trabant parked outside the fashionable Paris Bar restaurant caught his eye. Red, after all, is the colour of his politics. He broke in, tried unsuccessfully to switch on the radio, absent-mindedly connected two wires, started the engine — and drove away. Out of the Paris Bar stepped Walter Momper, the former mayor of Berlin, with Frank Castorf, the theatre director, and Johann Kresnik, the city's dance supremo. Kresnik was very proud of his Trabant — which he saw weaving away. Herr Momper called the police. Last week Herr Harnisch was fined for theft and drunken driving. The bill is about £4,000 — the price of several multicoloured Trabants.

Herr Kohl has "body language of an insulted liver-sausage"

Green brings colour to Kohl's cheeks

HELMUT KOHL stands on his dignity. In parliament he flies into a temper, or at least turns scarlet, if a deputy is rude or insolent about his performance.

For years, the only man allowed to make *ad hominem* remarks was Willy Brandt, the Social Democrat chairman who once accused the Chancellor "of assuming the body language of an insulted liver-sausage".

Nowadays, Herr Kohl indulges Joschka Fischer, the sharp-tongued leader of the Greens. "Yes, yes, go on, blow out your cheeks, like an old steam engine," Herr Fischer told Herr Kohl the other day. The Chancellor laughed — briefly.

Then Herr Fischer, a chirpy ex-student radical who appears to sleep in his jeans, went too far and accused the Chancellor of betraying the people of Grozny to preserve his friendship with President Yeltsin of Russia. The German leader exploded: "A cheap shot." Since then there has been precious little talk about a Black (that is, Christian Democrat)-Green alliance. But one prominent Christian Democrat, Heiner Geissler, has tried to revive the discussion in a new book entitled *Dangerous Victory*.

It all seems a trifle improbable, and not only because of the strain between Herr Kohl and Herr Fischer. After all, Black mixed with Green produces grey. And there seems to be quite enough of that already.

Fear of divorce puts marriage on the rocks in France

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THEY did not want to believe it yesterday in the Boutique Mariage at the chic Galeries Lafayette in Paris, but the figures are definitive and unavoidable: in the land of romance, marriages are no longer a fashion.

A new study shows that the French are less likely to get married than any other European nation except the Swedes, with just 255,200 couples tying the knot last year. The number of weddings has been diminishing steadily in France since 1973 but last year's figure represented a record drop of 6 per cent, compared with the previous 12 months.

The average French woman now gets married for the first time at the age of 26.6 and men at the age of 28.7, according to the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies. The statistics appear to be borne out, if anecdotal evidence at the Galeries Lafayette yesterday is anything to go by. Having decided that traditional values are no longer sufficient, the store was offering "additional reasons to get married". These included a free cheese knife and two tea cups.

In a country where Molière once wrote "better married than dead", the trend is disturbing. "I just can't conceive of love without marriage," said Véronique Bohn, 28, browsing at the boutique with her fiancé, Richard Fournier, 24. M Fournier, who plans to wed in July, said: "People are happy to live together and don't want to risk getting married because of the fear of divorce."

The institute's researcher, Catherine Launay, said: "Cohabitation has become progressively an alternative to marriage among those under the age of 30."

The declining birth rate that has accompanied this trend presents problems. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist presidential candidate, has issued a warning that unless the French have more children, they will not be able to support the burden of growing numbers of pensioners.

☐ Marital rift: A 100-year-old Frenchman who walked out on his wife, 97, after she accused him of having mistresses, has returned home.

François M, who requested anonymity, said he left his home in Lyons on Sunday after an argument with his wife and took a train to visit his niece in hospital. He returned home hours after his wife reported him missing. *(AFP)*

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Belgian alleged to be architect of Tutsi genocide

FROM TOM WALKER IN NGARA, TANZANIA

TANZANIAN authorities have admitted abandoning attempts to arrest a Belgian wanted for murder, who is taking refuge among 300,000 Rwandans clustered near the country's western border.

The presence of Georgio Ruiggio amid the poverty of the Hutu diaspora encircling Rwanda has been kept a secret by United Nations staff and aid workers. He is believed to be dangerous.

The Belgian Government holds him partly responsible for the deaths last April of Belgian paratroopers in Kigali, the Rwandan capital. The Rwandan Patriotic Front, now in power, regards him as one of the principal architects of the genocide against Tutsis.

Mr Ruiggio, of Italian extraction, was well known in Kigali before he fled the military advance of the Patriotic Front last May. As a radio operator with the notorious Hutu extremist station, Radio Mille Collines, he was allegedly often seen in the back of a pick-up vehicle in the streets of the city, exhorting Hutus to butcher both Belgians and Tutsis.

Despite claims of overwhelming evidence against him, apprehending Mr Ruiggio has proved difficult. The 300 Tanzanian police stationed around the Benaco refugee camp have twice failed to locate him, and their searches have provoked near-riots. "We want him out because he is an agitator," John Mwaecela, a Ministry of Home Affairs official in Dar es Salaam, said. "But we cannot do so at the expense of innocent human lives. We have already tried and realised how troublesome he is. For sure, we cannot go in there at the moment."

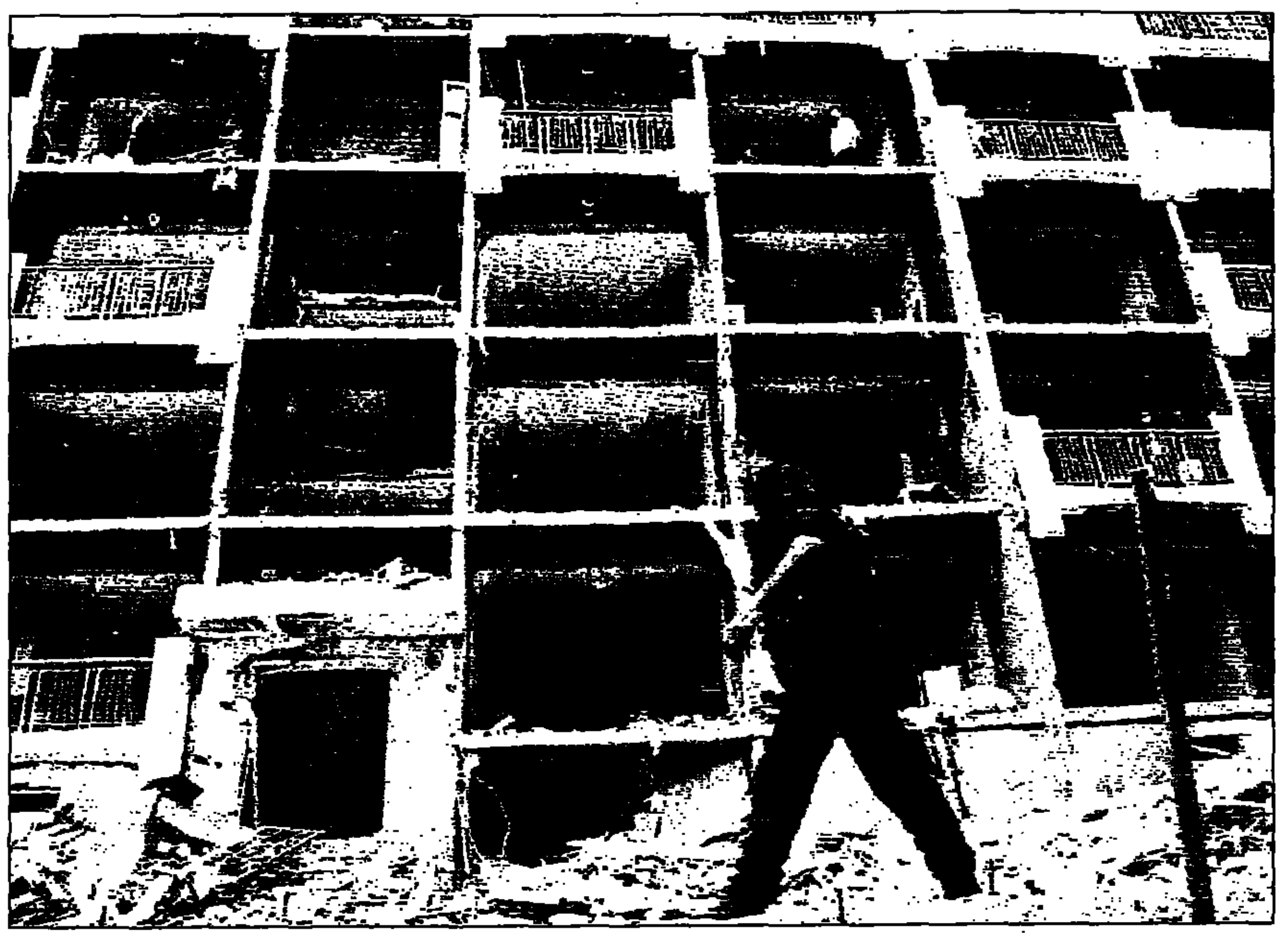
The Belgian Embassy in Kigali has been unaware of Mr Ruiggio's presence in the Tanzanian border camps. "We have lost all links with this man," an official said. "Personally, I have a very strong interest in him: as you know, ten Belgian paratroopers died here, and we would like to talk to him about the events."

Another official hinted that if the fugitive farce continued much longer, Belgium might be forced to consider more direct action. "There are no means for us to deal with him by civilian methods," he said, "but all countries have their own unofficial ways of getting people."

Mr Ruiggio remains an enigma for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees field workers in Benaco. No one knows how old he is, and few have seen him. He reputedly has a Belgian passport, as well as a Rwandan one which makes him a bona fide refugee. Some say he has a Rwandan wife, while others claim that he lives alone. Mr Ruiggio was last seen two weeks ago, registering at a refugee census to qualify for handouts of beans and maize.

A Dutch anthropologist working in the camp described him as small in stature and "stooped with a stick and a hat. He looks at the ground all the time, and avoids all contact." Despite the timid image, senior UNHCR workers depict Mr Ruiggio as a rabble rouser, drawing attention to his latest boast that he would take a white relief worker hostage when he gets the chance.

"There are few Europeans crazy enough to live in a refugee camp for reasons other than political purposes and agitation," a UNHCR officer said. "He is dangerous, but we don't want to give him credibility. At the moment, our policy is just to ignore him."



Algiers police flats bombed

Algiers: A policeman walks in the rubble in front of a police housing complex after a car-bomb exploded at dawn yesterday, injuring at least 33 people as they slept. The bombing followed a warning from the Armed Islamic Group that they would attack women linked to the security forces. Timed at dawn on the Muslim day of prayer when most Algerians are at home, the attack appeared to mark a new escalation in the fundamentalists' three-year campaign of terror to oust the military-backed Government. Eight children were among the wounded. The bomb blew up between two buildings on the Garidi estate for police officers and their families in the working-class suburb of Kouba, a fundamentalist stronghold. *(AFP)*

Nigeria coup plot prompts 29 arrests

BY SAM KILEY
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

NIGERIA'S military regime yesterday ended days of speculation when it announced that 29 soldiers and civilians had been arrested for their alleged part in organising an attempted coup against General Sani Abacha, head of the regime.

"Some military officers and civilians had ganged up to organise a coup d'état against the federal military Government," Major-General Abdulsalam Abubakar, the Chief of Defence Staff, said. The plotters wanted to carry out the coup on March 1, he added.

Hours after the announcement, General Abacha called off a trip to Copenhagen where he was to attend the United Nations social summit.

General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, one of Nigeria's most respected former army officers and an outspoken critic of the military junta, was also arrested yesterday, but an aide said he did not think the arrest was related to the coup attempt.

Mexico raises taxes and cuts spending

FROM REUTER IN MEXICO CITY

FACED with its worst economic crisis in more than a decade, Mexico has unveiled a harsh austerity plan which will cut spending, raise taxes and tighten the belts of the country's millions of poor.

Guillermo Ortiz, the Finance Minister, said that Mexico, until recently viewed as a star Third World economy, had been living beyond its means and running up debts it could not pay.

"The short-term adjustment will be difficult for all Mexicans," he said. "But one thing is clear ... there are no easy solutions."

He said that instead of the 4 per cent economic growth promised for 1995 by President Zedillo when he took office in December, Mexicans could instead expect a recession. The economy would shrink by 2 per cent and prices would shoot up by about 42 per cent. Calling for "extraordinary efforts" from citizens to make the plan work, Señor Ortiz admitted that its costs would be far more evident than its benefits in the short term.

The plan has "high costs for the population but the costs are less high than those of any alternative", he said.

The key points of the programme include:

☐ The minimum salary on which millions of poor Mexicans depend up by 10 per cent from April.

☐ Fuel prices up 35 per cent.

☐ Sales tax up from 10 to 15 per cent.

☐ The exchange rate will continue to float freely, but the central bank will pursue a tight monetary policy to try to prop up the peso's value against the dollar.

☐ The current account deficit, $28 billion (£17 billion) last year, would shrink to less than $2 billion this year because of the dramatic devaluation of the peso and the recession.

THE TIMES

Poussin exhibition private viewing

Readers of *The Times* are invited to a private viewing of two important exhibitions at the Royal Academy next Monday, March 13.

Nicolas Poussin 1594-1665 celebrates the 400th birthday of the father of French painting. Guests at the viewing will also see the exhibition *The Palladian Revival: Lord Burlington and his house and garden at Chiswick.*

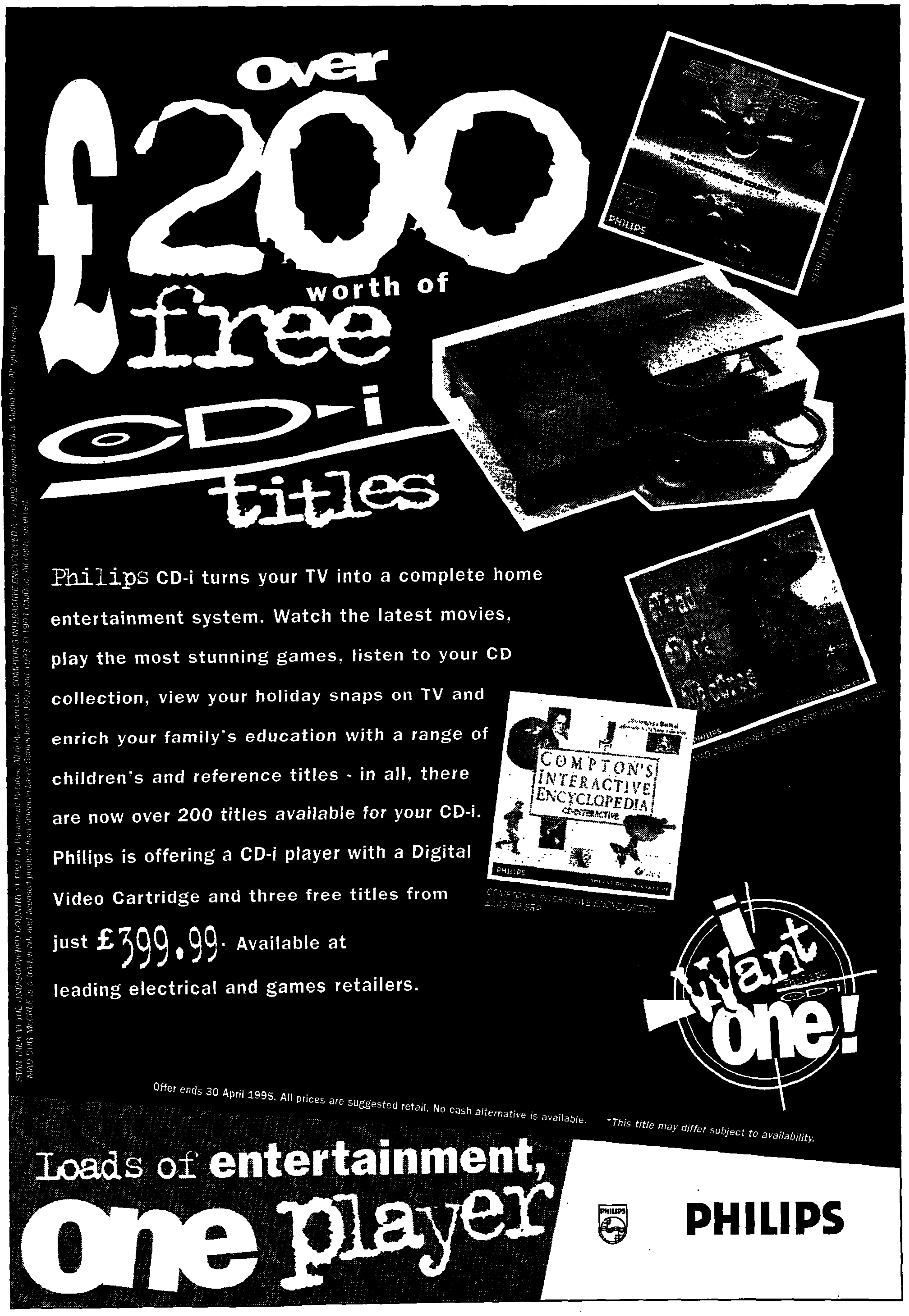
Invitations, which cost £10 per person, include a glass of Mouton Cadet vintage Bordeaux wine from Baron Philippe de Rothschild, a free gallery guide and an exhibition poster normally sold for £4.95.

Three lecturers will be on hand during the evening to guide visitors and answer questions. The Palladian exhibition includes 120 original paintings, drawings and engravings of the house and gardens at Chiswick. It explores Lord Burlington's friendship with influential contemporary figures, including Alexander Pope and George Frederic Handel.

The 88 paintings in the Poussin exhibition have been assembled from private and public collections in western Europe, Russia and America. The exhibition opened in Paris last year and came to Britain in January.

The private viewing, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, is certain to be highly popular but you can still reserve invitations by telephoning 071-226 7450 on Monday between 10am and 4pm. Credit cards are not acceptable, but you will be able to collect your ticket and pay on the door.

Tickets hotline: 0171-226 7450



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Loads of entertainment, one player

PHILIPS

Portuguese Government under fire as visitors and power company take toll on engravings

Dam project threatens art legacy from Ice Age

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN VILA NOVA DE FOZ COA

THE Portuguese Government *has been accused by leading* archaeologists of delaying tactics in deciding the future of a dam which threatens the world's largest open-air collection of palaeolithic rock art. The engravings were made *about 20,000 years ago but* have only just been discovered.

Initial construction work is continuing on a massive hydroelectric dam, which will flood ten miles of the priceless archaeological treasure trove along the valley of the River Coa near Vila Nova de Foz Coa, in northeastern Portugal. Already, the first visitors are *disfiguring the unprotected* figures of Ice Age animals and desecrating the *mystic site.*

"The prestige of archaeology and of Portugal are at *stake," said John Crisóstomo,* a Portuguese emigrant in New Jersey who has been campaigning to save the remarkably-preserved engravings. "A *Unesco report has just advised* the Government to stop the *dam and I am outraged* that this has not happened." In response, the Government has formed an international scientific committee to report within 30 days at the request of Unesco.

But Antonio Gouveia, 50, the Mayor of Vila Nova de Foz Coa, said: "Unesco's policy is *that cultural interests can be* overridden where economic and social requirements are more important." The dam is needed to make Portugal less dependent on energy imports, and supply water to the arid south. Until the committee reports, he refuses to favour either the dam or saving the rock art. "I want to see what is best for the population," he said.

Senhor Gouveia says he did not know the engravings existed until September last year, two years after EDP, the state-*controlled electricity company,* started the £236-million project.

Now that £110 million has been *spent to start damming the river for 14 miles, from* where it joins the mighty River Douro, it has been revealed that EDP employed a government archaeologist from 1992. *He informed them of the* drawings from the start, and was writing a secret thesis.

Mila Simões, a Portuguese archaeologist who has studied Stone Age art around the world during 18 years and *who is the representative in* Portugal of the International Federation of Rock Art Organisations, was not consulted initially. She says the area *should be preserved.*

"When I first saw the extent of the engravings last November, I could not believe it," she said. "They have been authenticated *by experts who have* come from around the world. The area *should be* transformed into a national park with a museum to enable people to learn about the art."

Paul Bahn, Britain's fore*most palaeolithic art expert,* whose book, *Image of the Ice Age*, is a bestseller, is among those to confirm that the River Coa drawings are genuine. Visiting them requires considerable local knowledge. Antonio Sotero, 43, the general practitioner for rural Vila Nova de Foz Coa's 12,000 *inhabitants, is one of several* residents whose new passion is finding undiscovered engravings and passing on the location to Senhora Simões.

Yesterday we drove down a tortuous and twisting track deep into the River Coa valley, then continued on foot between rushes and wild asparagus. Soon Dr Sotero pointed out one of his easier finds, *between wild flowers at the* base of the steep slopes. An outline of a plump palaeolithic horse had been chiselled with a quartz tool into the rust-*coloured shale. The head of* the 2ft-long animal was entwined with that of another pony. Eighty other drawings have been photographed, and *doubtless there are hundreds* more to be found.

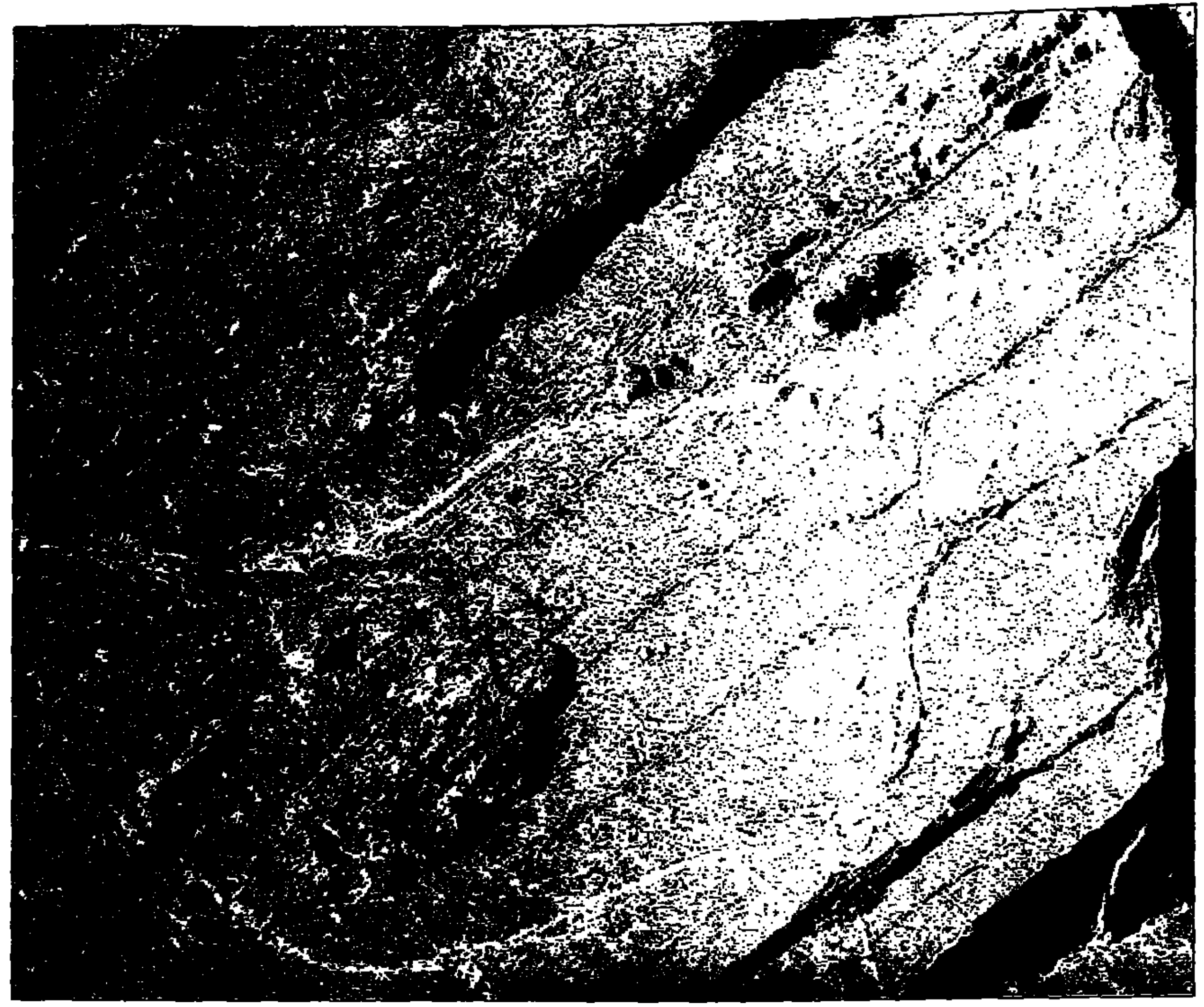
The path *became more* treacherous as we climbed, and the doctor pointed out the fragments of other pictures, many rudely shattered because of 200 centuries of weathering of the rock. Then he traced round a barely discernible horse about a-foot long.

Within the outline, the rock had been scoured with cuts to *give a painting effect. Finally,* he showed a life-size 5ft-high pony engraved on an almost inaccessible cliff above the river.

Earlier Artur Martins, 48, an English teacher at the local *secondary school, had guided* me to another site, further up the river on the opposite bank, about ten miles by road from *Vila Nova. The last two* covered a freshly-bulldozed track. On outcrops of rock were ancient oxen, horses with bucket-shaped snouts and fat goats. The oxen were particularly fine, with horns delicately *curving forwards and* upwards. João Miquael, 71, who was riding an old mule back to the village of Castelo *Melhor, said: "I have worked* the land since I was ten and never saw the engravings . . . I grow almonds, olives and vines for no profit. If the engravings brought us a better life, I would be against the *dam." Only a sixth of the* dam's 614-strong labour force comes from the region. After only two months, the vegetation below *Senhor Miquael's* land has been beaten into paths between each drawing, and modern graffiti has joined the infinitely cleverer pictures by Stone Age man.

In fact, a crude modern *etching was examined seriously* by Manuel Fraxes, the Portuguese Secretary of State for Culture. During a subse*quent visit last month with* Mario Soares, the Socialist President, children at the secondary school gave him reading glasses and a comic to protest at his apparent ignorance.

Leading article, page 17



One of the threatened Portuguese rock engravings. Some 20,000 years old, it depicts oxen with curved horns

MORTGAGE SALE NEWS

"I'VE DROPPED MY PRICES TO ROCK BOTTOM, BUT WHEN A BUILDING SOCIETY IS HAVING A SALE ON MORTGAGES, THE PUNTERS COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT BRUSSEL SPROUTS."

Dave Copeland, 32, South London market trader, is outraged by the Nationwide Mortgage Sale. "I've only sold two cabbages and one collie in the last fortnight." Father of three, Dave, claims the ridiculous mortgage deals have undermined his business. "This market used to be bustling with people, but now all they seem to be interested in is the Nationwide branch on the high street."

A spokesperson from Nationwide said last night "We apologise for any inconvenience caused to Mr. Copeland but with *such huge reductions* on a large range of mortgages, who can blame people, after all there's something for everyone." The sale is due to end on March 31st, according to Nationwide, who then went on to say "Mr Copeland may not realise that monthly payments have been reduced dramatically for one, two, or three years. We suggest he seeks more details at his local branch."

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Moscow deputies sack key critic of Chechen conflict

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

SERGEI KOVALYOV, Rus*sia's most outspoken critic of* the war in Chechenia, was yesterday sacked from his post as the country's human rights commissioner by fellow parliamentarians.

In what was regarded as a *considerable blow to Russia's* embattled liberals in the run-up to general elections later this year, the former dissident and gulag inmate was stripped of his duties in a 240-75 vote. Mr Kovalyov's fierce *opposition to the war in the* northern Caucasus has drawn comparisons with the campaign waged by the late dissident figure Andrei Sakharov, who was exiled for his condemnation of the Soviet war in Afghanistan.

Yesterday the comparison *seemed even more apt as a* grim coalition of extreme nationalists and conservative deputies launched a verbal barrage against the absent *legislator, borrowing the same* language used by the Soviet Communist Party to denounce Sakharov.

"Sergei Kovalyov cannot have responsibility for human rights," said Vladimir Zhiri*novsky, the ultra-nationalist* leader, who condemned Mr Kovalyov's proposal to bring international observers to monitor the conflict. "He wants to bring foreign troops to Russia."

Sergei Baburin, who led the assault, accused Mr Kovalyov of betraying his country by "appealing to the entire world to put pressure on Russia". Liberal colleagues of Mr Kovalyov backed the human rights activist, and Sergei Yushenkov, chairman of the *parliamentary defence committee,* said that he would resign from his job in protest. "I no longer find it possible to remain in the post of chair*man of the committee,"* said Mr Yushenkov, a former soldier who has also been a forceful critic of the campaign in Chechenia.

However, Mr Kovalyov's stand against the three-month *conflict in Chechenia may* have damaged his party's chances in December's polls.

☐ **Yeltsin defeat:** President Yeltsin suffered a humiliating defeat in parliament yesterday when conservatives and liberals united against the Kremlin for its failure to fight organised crime. The deputies voted 268-5 in support of a no-confidence motion against Viktor Yerin, the Interior Minister, and Alexei Ilyushenk, the acting prosecutor-general, who were accused of failing to *stop a crime wave which last* week claimed the life of Vladislav Listyev, a popular television personality.

IMF backs Yeltsin with new £4bn loan

BY RICHARD BEESTON

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's shaky leadership yesterday received a generous endorsement from the West when the International Monetary Fund pledged to back Russia with a £4 billion stand-by loan this year.

In a move that signalled an *end to the state of semi-*isolation imposed on the Russian leader since his ill-fated campaign in Chechenia, Michel Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, said after meeting Mr Yeltsin yesterday: "I am ready to give it my vote of confidence."

M Camdessus said that the money, one of the largest loans made by the IMF, would help Russia push through a reform programme this year which aims to bring down inflation and cut public spending.

*Although Russia was de*lighted with the IMF's decision after months of tortuous negotiations, there are still doubts about the wisdom of giving such a generous loan to a country *in political and* economic turmoil. Inflation in January was nearly 18 per cent and last month 11 per cent. The rouble is continuing its daily slide against the dollar, while subsidised sectors such as *agriculture are continuing to* receive large handouts.

Critics accused the IMF of indirectly subsidising Russia's costly war in the Caucasus. Russian economists have estimated that it will cost Moscow more than £1 billion to pay for the military campaign, reconstruction and relief to an estimated 200,000 refugees.

M Camdessus refuted this. "The IMF has not to pass judgment in Chechenia ... If we were to wait for countries to pass all political problems we *would not be active in* many parts of the world."

Magazine, page 8

Britain urges UN to drop trade and human rights link

FROM EVE-ANN PRENTICE IN COPENHAGEN

Nasreen: no sexual equality in Sweden

BRITAIN yesterday startled *many at the United Nations* social summit by issuing a call for free trade and questioning the principle of cutting trade with countries with poor *human rights records.*

"It is free trade that is the key to global prosperity," Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Minister for Overseas Aid, told the summit in Copenhagen. "The World Conference on Human Rights agreed that human rights are universal. Countries which have a bad record on human rights have had and will have their aid *reviewed. But cutting off mar*kets is not an effective way to improve human rights records."

Her statement came as delegates from 120 countries were still wrangling over the final text of a declaration aimed at spurring the world into a collective, but probably futile, attempt to "eradicate poverty", cure social ills and provide *jobs for all. The final text* eventually emerged last night for signing at the weekend.

"Job creation depends above all on improving the competitiveness of our economies," Lady Chalker said to muted applause. "*It is not for devel*oped countries to punish others *for failing to achieve social* standards they are unable to afford. Labour conditions which we view as unacceptable, such as the employment of children in factories, cannot simply be abolished overnight even by the most determined governments."

*Lady Chalker later indicat*ed that she was less than convinced that the summit could achieve its sweeping goals. "There is a worry," she said, "that we are having an awful lot of conferences. Rio (the Earth summit), Cairo (population) and now we are in Copenhagen. I try to be realistic. You can alleviate poverty *but it is a relative* thing and I am not sure you can eliminate it."

At a meeting of delegates from non-governmental organisations last night, Taslima Nasreen, the feminist writer exiled from Bangladesh, accused men in industrialised countries of being as sexist as those in "poor parts of the world".

Ms Nasreen said that battered wives' hostels in Sweden, where she has taken refuge from death threats, helped to prove her point. "If Sweden was a society with equality for both men and women these kind of places would not need to exist," she said.

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EU attacks 'piracy' as Spanish trawler is seized

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

IN A swift and furious response, the European Union yesterday condemned the Canadian Government after Canadian patrol boats seized a Spanish trawler in international waters off the coast of Newfoundland.

Emma Bonino, the European Fisheries Commissioner, called the seizure on Thursday night an "act of organised piracy", and EU diplomats threatened to "reassess" the EU's entire relationship with Canada, raising the prospect of a rupture in bilateral political and economic relations.

The crisis in EU-Canadian relations occurs against a background of a dispute over the fishing rights of Greenland halibut in North Atlantic waters. Canada last month won a vote in the North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (Nafo), a voluntary international organisation of which the EU is a member, to cut the EU's annual catches to a minute proportion of present levels, while increasing Canada's allowances more than threefold. The EU has launched a formal objection to these quotas.

The EU's outrage was exacerbated by the violence used by Canadian patrol officers in their seizure of the ship. Canadian vessels launched four bursts of 50mm fire over the bows of *Estai* before officers boarded the ship, arrested the captain, and towed the vessel to a Canadian port. At the time of the seizure, the *Estai* was fishing in international waters, 45 nautical miles outside Canada's 200-nautical-mile zone.

In a statement yesterday, senior EU diplomats said that "with this action Canada is not only flagrantly violating international law, but is failing to observe normal behaviour of responsible states. This serious breach of international law goes far beyond the question of fisheries conservation. The arrest is a lawless act against the sovereignty of a member state of the European Community. Furthermore, the behaviour of the Canadian vessels has clearly endangered the lives of the crew and the safety of the Spanish vessel concerned."

The European Commission's legal service said that international law prohibits countries from using aggressive action in international waters, except in cases of piracy, radio piracy, slave trade or drug trafficking. The Commission also said that Nafo is a consensual organisation, as a result of which "Community vessels are not bound to respect this quota". Under international law, Canada's unilateral action could be perceived as an act of war, although EU officials have avoided this interpretation.

As a first step, the European Commission has called for an emergency meeting of Nafo. EU diplomats, who met in an emergency session yesterday, called on Canada to release the vessel immediately, repair any damage, refrain from harassing any EU ships in the region, and repeal domestic legislation, under which Canada launched its action. Canada last night refused to release the Spanish vessel.

Canada defends arrest

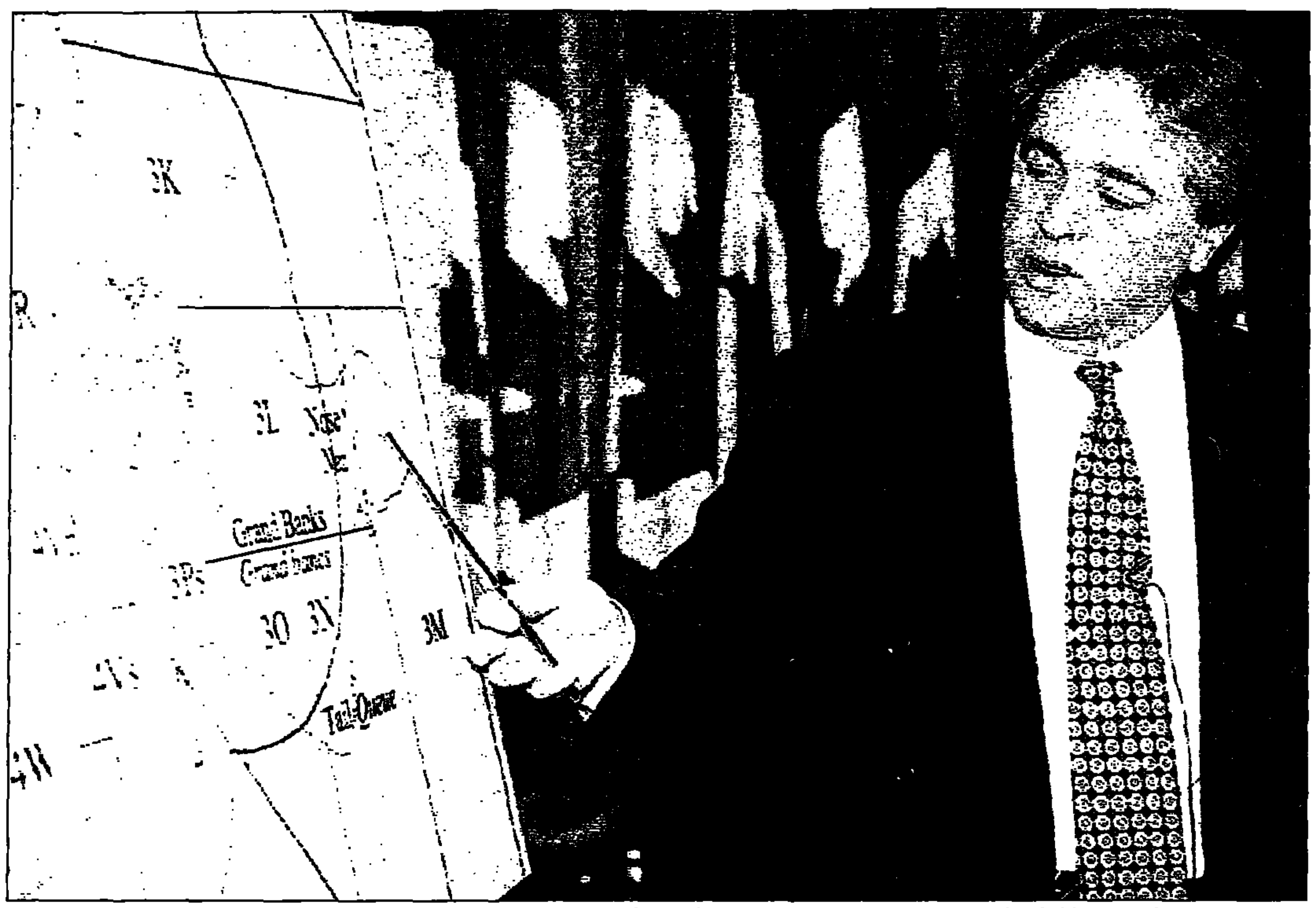
FROM REUTER
IN OTTAWA

CANADA vowed yesterday to detain more ships found fishing in the contested area of the North Atlantic, to protect its fish stocks. Canadian officials claimed their policy appeared to be working as the fleet of Spanish trawlers had all but vacated the area.

Canada has imposed a 60-day moratorium on all fishing for Greenland halibut, also known as turbot, in areas known as the nose and tail of the Grand Banks off the coast of Newfoundland.

"There appear to be almost no vessels on the nose ... not the large number we saw yesterday, and two or three possible sightings on the tail, not the ten we saw yesterday so a good part of the Spanish fleet has obviously stood off," Brian Tobin, the Canadian Fisheries Minister, said.

Andre Ouellet, the Canadian Foreign Minister, said that Spanish vessels had overfished their quotas. "Canada had no other choice but to take action at sea to put a stop to this practice."



Brian Tobin, Canadian Fisheries Minister, points to the location off Newfoundland where he said the Spanish fishing vessel was boarded

Wilson poised to run for president

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

OFFERING the clearest signal yet of his intention to run for the presidency, Pete Wilson, the Governor of California, is raising money for a possible campaign that would make him one of the strongest contenders for a Republican White House.

Mr Wilson, 61, opened a bank account this week and his aides began the process of seeking $1,000 (£625) donations. Although officials at the State House in Sacramento said yesterday the account was a prerequisite to comply with federal election laws, most Republicans believe he intends to enter the race.

If Mr Wilson does indeed run — he is expected to announce his decision at the end of the month — his Californian power base and position on election issues from crime to immigration would place him immediately at the Republican high table with Senators Bob Dole of Kansas and Phil Gramm of Texas.

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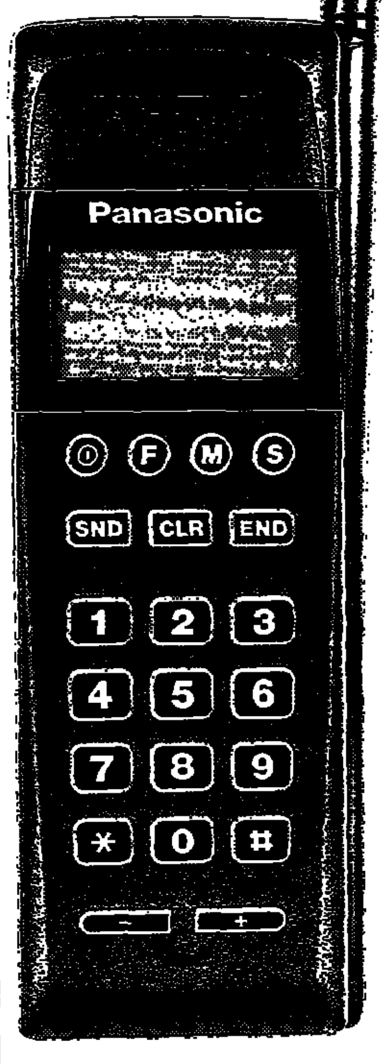

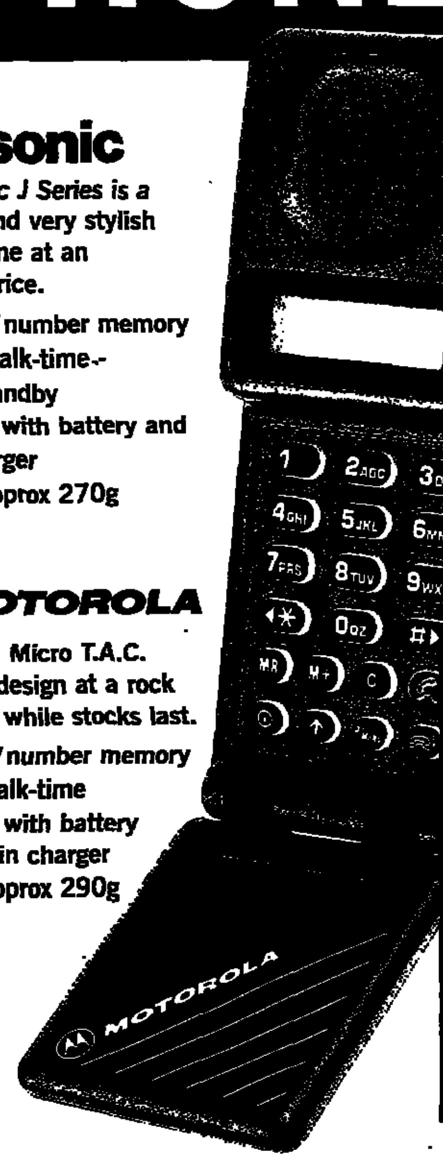

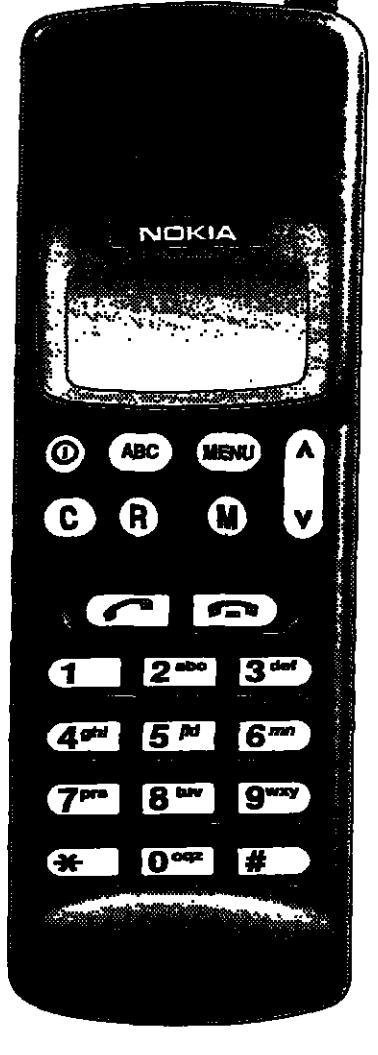

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A Cross to be carried on

The Church would be foolish, says **Henry Chadwick**, to junk its symbol

The news that the Church has invited some professional advertisers to help by drawing the attention *of people to the coming festival* of Easter is heartening. At the same time there will have been a qualm or two in their announcement that the advertisements are not to carry, even in some small corner, the visual symbol of the Cross, on the boldly stated ground that this ancient sign is a bit of "cultural baggage" we moderns need to do without.

Symbols are important. This particular symbol has a history as long as that of the Christian society itself, and for good reason, namely that, because of the Gospel story of the Passion and the conquest of death, believers recognise in the two simple lines making a cross the potent code-image for the love of God and for the intensity of the price paid for the redemption of humanity.

Inevitably the Christian community, which has in various forms been around for a couple of millennia, is going to carry with it a comet trail of the past, some of it certainly describable as cultural baggage best left in some dump or other, but if the dump comes to include items that are felt by believers to be load-bearing in the central structure of their faith, then the qualms will need a lot of bicarbonate of soda to abate and tranquillise. We do not want *Hamlet* without the Prince of Denmark.

'We do not want *Hamlet* without the Prince of Denmark'

Criminal codes no longer impose the penalty of crucifixion, a form of capital punishment used by the ancient Romans in which the preceding torture was prolonged as long as possible. Christian emperors abolished it early in the fourth century. The early Christians, convinced that, in the fidelity of Jesus to his Father's calling the love of God to his rational creation was disclosed, saw in his self-surrender to death by crucifixion on the Cross the supreme triumph of the Creator over sin and death. Nothing was more natural than that they should take this symbol of the love of God as their special sign.

The earliest examples in Christian iconography are *found in inscriptions* and gems, some of them being *gnostic amulets* (gnostics being particularly interested *in finding universal cosmic* symbols), and there are representations of the crucified Christ, not only of the Cross *without the Redeemer still* affixed to it. Early inscriptions *in catacomb burials record the* name of the person, perhaps a word such as *Eirene*, Peace, and then a finely incised cross. *The cross was also given the* form of a T, and in the epistle of Barnabas *(written perhaps* round about AD 95-100) this T form becomes a clue to allegorical interpretation of the 318 servants of Abraham, the number 318 in Greek letters being TIH and, for Barnabas, standing for "Cross of Jesus". The cruciform shape was found elsewhere too, in anchors or even military standards or tridents.

Crucifixion was not only exquisitely painful. It was also degrading and humiliating in *the maximum* degree. Perhaps for this reason representations of the crucified Lord appear to have lost some ground to icons of the Cross without the Lord. The artists may have been conscious of the entrenched feeling in pagan Gentile society at the shame of the cross.

The cross as symbol of divine triumph is already found by the middle years of the second century, and expresses a perception of the meaning of the Passion already prominent in St John's Gospel or in the Epistle to the Colossians. It therefore became instinctive to make the symbol as beautiful as possible, incising it on Christian silver (examples can be seen in the Victoria and Albert Museum, or the Water Newton silver of the fourth century now in the British Museum). The poet Prudentius in Spain describes a church building with a portrayal of the crucifixion of Christ and the two bandits painted as a mural. In one or two ancient examples the central cross is empty, and the bandits are there on either side.

In the Greek East by the sixth century it was common to represent Christ under the symbol of the Lamb, in the Apocalypse of St John presiding over the heavenly marriage supper, of which the earthly celebration of the Lord's supper is an anticipation. In 592 a council of bishops at Constantinople judged it wiser and more intelligible to congregations, perhaps also to "fringers" who were still numerous at that epoch, if the Lord were not portrayed in this way but rather in His humanity.

After the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, visited the Holy Land in 326 and was shown the wood presented as the true Cross, there sprang up a wide diffusion of fragments of the true Cross — an industry in relics which now survives mainly in highly secularised shapes, for example in the collecting of letters by notable figures of literature. (I was once entrusted with Gladstone's walking stick, and Masters of Peterhouse are guardians of Lord Kelvin's umbrella.)

Artists found multifarious ways of using the central Christian symbol, and gave it numerous variations in shape and form. It gave occasion to wonderfully compassionate portraits of Jesus sharing in *the suffering of the humanity* He came to redeem.

If one is setting out to define what the Church is, not merely what it *may need to have, it is* hard to avoid saying it is *where the word of God is* proclaimed and where the *sacraments of the Lord* are duly celebrated. From that it *will follow that the faith in* God's love, from which the apostle was utterly persuaded that believers cannot be separated, *preached in word and* enacted in sacrament, will need this ancient permanent symbol of that reality which *makes Christianity what it is* and not something else.

● *The author is a former Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, and an historian of the early Church.*

Tim Bell says that generous executive rewards should be stoutly defended against the envy mob

What's wrong with corporate success?

A black cloud is hanging over the business world. It *is the* prevailing view of corporate profits and "corporate greed" — and public lynching is what the successful senior executives of British industry can now expect at the hands of the press, general public and the politicians.

The announcement of some of the recent pay rises for senior executives could have been handled better, but this is quite distinct from the issue of the actual amount of the pay rises or share options. On the whole, these were richly deserved, but the point is that it is nobody else's business — and most certainly not the Government's. These are companies in the private sector, and remuneration is a matter for the directors and shareholders.

The fact is that these executives work for companies that are making profits and this should be a reason to rejoice, not whinge. But if you believe the propaganda, the big bosses of Britain's most prominent companies are secretly and greedily helping themselves to huge slices of their shareholders' profits.

The media have rightly scented a story which will run and run, and editors are publishing headlines which rival the worst 1970s success-bashing. One paper recently proclaimed that "the game is up".

I do not believe that wealth creation is a game and I could never celebrate the end of it because it would be the end of national prosperity.

We have been here before, of course, back in the 1970s, but then much of British industry was being run very badly by a lot of incompetent people in government departments and, as you would expect, making a thumping loss. The people begged for denationalisation as reward for effort and achievement, lower top-rate taxes and for British businesses to fire up the wealth-creation process. That is why they elected a Conservative Government.

What is astonishing is that we are having this debate again in the mid-1990s, when British industry is at its most successful for decades.

Let us ignore, for a moment, the issues of incentives, reward and the need to pay for the best talent. What we cannot ignore is that something is seriously wrong when even the Prime Minister in a Conservative government feels that he has to say that the level of certain top executives' remuneration is "distasteful" and might need legislation.

There are some important issues which have been obscured by all this fuss over directors' bonus schemes.

First, privatised British industry, including the utility companies, has grown spectacularly and profitably over the past decade. In the last couple of years the utilities have made nearly £8 billion and have contributed at least £2 billion to the Government to spend on public services.

What these profits indicate is that they are successful companies, they are doing a great job for their shareholders and their customers, and creating wealth for the country as a whole and, quite properly, for themselves as well.

British utility companies are now competing for major contracts all over the world and beating the Americans, Germans and Japanese. We should be proud of these achievements, proclaim them loudly and we should stop focusing on the odd example of excessive reward as though it were the norm.

Second, an attack on corporate profits is an attack on the company, its directors, its customers and, especially, its shareholders. Surely what we want is more shareholders, not fewer, because a successful society is one where more people have more money, not less. A successful society is one in which ordinary people can own a stake in the action and will work hard to build it up. Surely we have realised by now that the State is bad at running businesses and the market is a better regulator than a politician or a regulatory tsar.

Third, an attack on *the enterprising* company is an attack on a free and prosperous society. Executive pay is, and must remain, a matter for directors and shareholders. It should be the rate for the job, have real performance-related incentives and be *transparent*. Any government interference beyond this is a restriction on *the free market*. Restrictions on the market are socialism and should therefore be resisted tooth and nail. Socialism does not work.

Company directors should be defending themselves and their company's achievements boldly and should stop wasting time on complaining about the media. There is a serious debate to be had about corporate profits and how they are distributed, but it will always get back to the central point: which is that without profits there is no business, and without business there are not any jobs and there is no wealth to distribute to create a fair society.

But we are not having a serious debate. All we are hearing is a one-sided tirade from the Labour Party, and instead of counter-attacking, business leaders are presenting a landscape of pinstriped corporate bottoms, pointing towards the sky.

● *Extracted from a speech by Sir Timothy Bell at the Coopers & Lybrand plc Awards, in association with* The Times, *on Thursday.*

Life and death is not for lawyers

Medical decisions must take account of financial resources, but should at all costs be kept out of the courts

Simon Jenkins

Rembrandt's *Anatomy Lesson*, from the days when health was a matter for doctors

We are watching the deprofessionalisation of Britain. Yesterday Mr Justice Laws at the High Court in London decided that a health authority acted unlawfully in refusing to buy treatment for a girl suffering from leukaemia. He was later overruled by the Court of Appeal. The day before, the Prime Minister, no less, reassured the House of Commons that an emergency patient had been flown from London to Leeds because he "required a very highly specialised form of treatment". Meanwhile the Health Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, is being subpoenaed from all sides for not providing beds for individual patients.

In the old days these were matters for doctors. If we wanted an explanation or a "second opinion" we got it from another doctor, not from a judge or a prime minister. We trusted doctors to give honest judgments and if a mistake was made we expected their professional colleagues to account for it. Not any more. The 1990 NHS *reforms diluted the professional* closed shop. It brought managers *and health executives into the* professional loop, and demanded *that clinical decisions* take account of how much money was available. Few *would now* quarrel with that. But now we are going one step further. We are involving lawyers, politicians and the screaming media hordes. We *may be doing* so with the best of intentions, but we shall regret it.

For all its agonising implications, the argument set out by Cambridgeshire *Health Authority in the High* Court and Court of Appeal yesterday *in the case of "Girl B"* was surely robust. The girl was suffering from a rare complication of leukaemia that has defied two years of painful *chemotherapy and bone transplant.* The chances of further treatment succeeding were, according to Addenbrooke's and the Royal *Marsden hospitals minimal,* at just over 2 per cent. The choice was between a child dying in relative comfort and her almost certainly *dying after suffering another bout of* painful treatment. The hospital could not recommend the cost of such treatment, which was £75,000. The *health authority, to whom the family* appealed, formed the same view. Its decision was plainly clinical, though it added in all honesty that there were competing claims for such money. That should have been enough.

The family went to court. Their lawyer said "any reasonable person would take the chance" on a cure. They found a private surgeon who put the chances of remission not at 2 per cent but at 10-20 per cent. The judge duly sided with the family. He said the decision should not have been purely medical, let alone financial. It should have been on what was best for the child. This was "not a medical choice but a human choice," he said. The views of the parents were a factor that the authority had not considered but should have done. So too was the child's "right to life". He implied that these were absolutes. He ruled the authority's decision unreasonable and therefore unlawful and said that it should reconsider. Only on appeal was his judgment reversed.

Mr Justice Laws made good head*lines but bad sense.* The Girl B decision must be a matter *of medical judgment informed by* financial priorities. Both told in *favour of the health authority. This is* an operation costing £75,000 which two *responsible leukaemia experts* gave only a 2 per cent chance of success. That money ought to be available to buy the best overall gain *in public health in the area. This* embraces the "right to life" of countless patients, young and old, all of whom have a claim on the health budget. Indeed if the Cambridgeshire authority really took decisions on the basis suggested by Mr Justice Laws, disregarding money and clinical opinion, that would be a true cause for court action.

If parents wish to disregard the advice of the hospital and the health authority, which is perfectly understandable, they are at liberty to do so. But they should surely not have a claim on the taxpayer. Judges and Opposition politicians, who yesterday leapt onto the bandwagon, should not demand it of them. It puts everybody in the public service who *must* make painful decisions, perhaps of life and death, in an impossible position.

Medical decisions have always been about money. They were about *money when surgeons took them* behind hospital screens. They were *about money when consultants allo*cated capital budgets in secret. If buying high-tech equipment meant not operating on a dozen hole-in-heart babies or cancelling a geriatric unit, so be it. That is how hospital spending shot skywards in the 1980s, to end in ward closures and political shroud-waving.

The point of Margaret Thatcher's *health reforms was to expose NHS* money decisions to public view, especially decisions on what was spent inside hospitals. The public was to be made politically literate about costs. Since the 1990 Act, priority decisions have been shared between hospitals, GPs and health authorities. When fundholders discuss hospital treatment with patients, they discuss money. Money is the issue when Mrs Bottomley sends her countless missives to health authorities and hospital trusts, telling them to cut waiting lists, do more hip operations or take in fewer mental patients. Money conditions decisions over the use of intensive care beds.

I cannot see what is wrong with bringing medical judgments face to face with what they cost. We debate *how much treatment should be given* to smokers and drinkers. We argue *about an upper age limit on organ* transplants or hip replacements. *Surgeons can no longer make snap* decisions. They must be more ratio*nal. They read their "RIP"* computer programmes to tell what chance there is of a given patient surviving a proposed treatment, so they can *discuss it sensibly with patients and* relatives. Every hospital is host to a dozen decisions each night on life and death, informed by percentage mortality rates and the "prospective quality of life" of a patient.

Mr Justice Laws wants to deprofessionalise this process. He wants to restore some golden age when decisions on treatment were "not medical but human" and every doctor was guided only by the "right to life". He wants lawyers to second-guess doctors under the guise of second-guessing administrators. This is banal. Every medical decision is human. Every doctor fights to save life. But *treating terminal illness* has always been a matter of fine judgment. In war a doctor does not fight to save a desperate case when he *knows that three "better bets"* are waiting outside the tent. He thinks *priorities. That is what a cash-limited* health service that is accessible to all really means.

The present zest for judicial and political intervention encourages the public to disregard professional judgment and the risks that are part and parcel of it. Had Mr Justice Laws not been overturned, patients would be flocking to his court to wreck any resource decision made by a local hospital or health authority. Doctors would have to cover their backs against that litigation. There is no question where this leads. America's insurance-based health care shows what happens if a system is stripped of professional risk or financial priority. Expenditure soars and equity is disregarded. I am told that 30 per cent of the spending on cancer in America goes on terminal cases beyond the point at which, in Britain, doctors would cease treatment.

Doctors must be allowed to have the courage of their convictions, and so sometimes must health administrators. I want to be kept alive because I have a better doctor, not a better lawyer, a richer newspaper or a more strident politician in support.

Fair work

THE TIMES DIARY

AS GREVILLE Janner's chairmanship of the Commons Employment Select Committee comes under ever closer scrutiny, the Labour MP appears to be hoping to appease his rebellious MPs with a nice little bonus. Janner plans to take the committee to the United States over Easter on an all-expenses paid jaunt.

On the trip, which will give his committee a break from interrogating bosses of the privatised utilities about their six-figure pay deals, the MPs will spend four days — and the equivalent of many an executive's bonus — travelling around Washington and its environs studying "workfare" schemes.

While the MPs may be eagerly looking forward to the trip, the subject under inquiry is causing amazement over in Michael Portillo's Employment Department which regards workfare as "last year's story" and an issue more properly the domain of Peter Lilley's Social Security Department. "It's very peculiar, as workfare isn't really an issue any longer," declares my ministry source.

But not all Janner's critics are opposed to the trip. Tory MP Alan Duncan sniffs: "If he is going to learn something and report soberly then I would rather he did that than prance about in front of the television cameras."

Albee blown

THE AUDIENCE at Wyndham's Theatre in London saw a little less of Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille in *Three Tall Women* than they were expecting on Thursday night. Towards the end of the first act, the lighting board crashed and the rest of the show had to be performed in almost total darkness. "Some chip or other in the computer packed up and the whole lot went out," moans Wyn Howard-Thomas, the company manager.

"We tried to get the lights back up during the interval but to no avail. We had to ask the ladies if they wanted to cancel or carry on. They very gallantly decided the show must go on."

Two small halogen lamps were conjured up to supply the only illumination on stage. "It was basically very dark," chuckles Howard-Thomas. "They performed as best they could with whatever light they had."

The audience (which included Lauren Bacall) seemed to love it. There was an extra curtain call at the end. Dame Maggie was heard to remark afterwards to a friend that the experience had been more like performing a radio than a stage play.

● *Three trees planted in the shadow of the Albert Hall yesterday by Angela Hooper, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, and André Hediger, the Mayor of Geneva, will grow in the concert hall's image. "Our gardeners came up with the Mop Head Acacia," says a council spokeswoman. "When it's in full foliage it bears an uncanny resemblance to the dome of the Albert Hall itself."*

Wings of peace

SIR *Patrick Mayhew was pouring* soothing words yesterday over the latest *strains in the* Anglo-Irish peace process when an augury appeared. A white dove fluttered down the chimney into his Tunbridge Wells constituency office, disrupting the Northern Ireland *Secretary's interview* with the BBC.

"Ah, a *dove of peace,"* gasped Mayhew. "I hope my dogs don't get it." But, *strangely, his collie Pippa* and her labrador-cross daughter, Jesse, *did not bat an eyelid.* The startled bird perched on the window *sill until Mayhew released it* into the Kentish air.

● *A solitary figure shivered outside the Commons yesterday — waiting for an ambulance. John Whittingdale, up-and-coming young Tory MP on the health committee, was scheduled to spend the day with London Ambulance Service. "I've waited 33 minutes," he muttered. "I hope they're better at getting to accidents on time than they are at picking up MPs."*

Penchant

LORD GOWRIE, chairman of the Arts Council, has confessed to harbouring a lifelong fetish for fountain pens. He made his revelation at the presentation of the European Montblanc de la Culture award to the composer Gian Carlo Menotti at the Wallace Collection on Thursday evening.

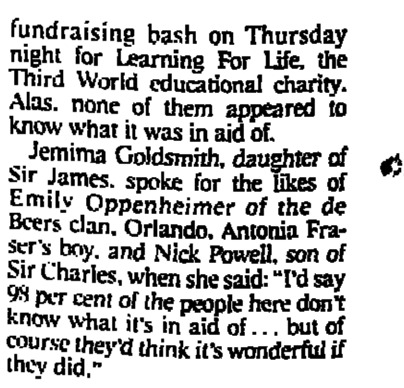
The winner of the award, which seeks to honour patrons of the arts, received $25,000 — and a gold fountain pen. This prompted the former *Arts Minister's confession.*

"I was a small boy in the eight to *11 phase when I developed a* passion, a fetish which has not altogether *left me,"* explained his lordship. "Other boys dreamt of *cars, water pistols and football* boots. I wanted fountain pens." For two birthdays rolled into one he received a magnificent Parker pen. "It was the worst day of my life when I lost it. But the best day when I found it again. What my psychiatrist would make of this I don't know — I haven't had the nerve to tell him."

● *Fond farewells to Michael Kemp of the* Daily Mail, *who retires this month after 46 years, most of them as a motoring correspondent. Except, that is, from Rolls-Royce. During his final test drive in one of its new £215,000 Bentley Azures, Kemp experienced a disagreement with a lorry, which left one side of the hand-built car badly damaged. "I may as well go out with a bang," shrugs Kemp.*

Aid mémoire

JAMIE PALUMBO'S club, Ministry of Sound, overflowed with the sons and daughters of Britain's best-known families at a fundraising bash on Thursday night for Learning For Life, the Third World educational charity. Alas, none of them appeared to know what it was in aid of.



Jemima Goldsmith: good cause

Jemima Goldsmith, daughter of Sir James, spoke for the likes of Emily Oppenheimer of the de Beers clan, Orlando, Antonia Fraser's boy, and Nick Powell, son of Sir Charles, when she said: "I'd say 98 per cent of the people here don't know what it's in aid of . . . but of course they'd think it's wonderful if they did."

P·H·S

CARE IN THE COURTS

Judges should only rarely interfere in medical decisions

Until the Court of Appeal's decision yesterday, the question of further treatment for a ten-year-old leukaemia victim in Cambridge was entangled in confusion and incoherence. A ruling by the High Court earlier in the day seemed to suggest that no medical intervention which offered the remotest hope of life to a terminally ill patient should be withheld. A child with even a slight chance of being saved from death should be offered everything that medical science could offer — including experimental techniques that were likely to cause her great suffering.

In this earlier judgment, Mr Justice Laws had placed great emphasis on the absolute "right to life". This, he said, should have been the health authority's overriding priority. His ruling seemed to imply that the NHS could now be forced by common law to offer limitless treatment to all patients whose lives were at risk, without appropriate regard to the fair distribution of resources to the community as a whole. His ruling, had it been upheld, would have meant that any patient dissatisfied with a hospital's decision about the use of particular treatments could attempt to have it reversed by the courts.

The Court of Appeal has now stated definitively that it is not for the courts to interfere with the way health authorities make medical judgments on funding. It has also concluded that the decision by Cambridge Health Authority not to pursue the treatment being demanded in this case was rational and fair. What has been unclear is the precise ground for the original decision by Cambridge Health Authority to withhold the only possible procedures — a second round of chemotherapy and bone marrow transplant — that could now save the life of the girl identified only as patient B.

On the one hand, there seem to have been sound clinical reasons given for this refusal by the doctors responsible for her case. Specialists at the Royal Marsden and Addenbrooke's Hospital who had been treating her were firmly opposed to the additional treatment which they said would be experimental, not therapeutic and likely to cause great suffering. Confusingly, however, clear reference was also made in communications from Cambridge Health Authority to spending limits and the need to prioritise expensive treatment. A statement by the Health Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, did not help to disentangle these distinct criteria. While she said unequivocally that judgments of this kind must be up to clinicians, she also remarked that in a modern health service, every clinical decision "took place within circumstances of finite resources".

While subjecting a dying child to needless futile suffering would strike most people as undesirable, refusing treatment on the ground of cost is more difficult to accept. There is a widespread belief that government health reforms have introduced rationing of treatment to the health service for the first time. In fact, doctors have always had to make judgments about the best use of hospital budgets and the relative value of medical interventions.

The tragedy of a child's grave illness and possible death presents doctors and health administrators with decisions whose moral burden is almost intolerable. Because a distinction is now made between purchasers and providers of healthcare, decision-making processes in the health service have become more transparent. It is a welcome change that medical judgments — and the constraints under which they must be made — are now open to inspection as never before. But the regular countermanding of such decisions by the courts would undermine both the integrity and the rationality of responsible healthcare.

DAM FOLLY

The Portuguese Government must end its cultural vandalism

Part of our collective history is in peril in a remote corner of Europe. The valley of the Coa River — 250 miles northeast of Lisbon — is threatened with inundation if the rapidly advancing designs of the Portuguese Government are not brought swiftly to a halt. As *The Times* reports today, Electricidade de Portugal (EDP), the state-owned power company, is in the process of building a dam on this little-known river which will drown the continent's most significant open-air site of Palaeolithic rock art.

Portugal is not so starved of electricity as to be in desperate need of the dam; nor even is it the case that it could not purchase cheaply from its neighbours — or from other sources — the extra energy which the dam would produce. Why, then, is the country's Government prepared to countenance vandalism on such a scale?

The carvings of the Coa Valley are accounted by archaeologists to be as important as the celebrated paintings of the Lascaux Grotto in the Dordogne, and those in the caves of Altamira in northern Spain; and estimated to be 20,000 years old, the Coa art is older still than that of either site. The carvings are described as wondrous by those who have seen them, archaeologists and amateurs alike. They depict the beasts by whose side prehistoric man lived, and who provided him with his nourishment, his clothing and his earliest sense of magic.

There are wild cows, deer, bison, ibex, bears and horses, all chiselled into the rugged, russet shale by ancient men working with tools fashioned from quartz — and new carvings are discovered daily in the area by archaeologists. The composition of the art of the Coa Valley is precocious, representing animals with skill and subtlety. Many of the carvings are made up of dots gouged into rock — perhaps Seurat was not, after all, the first Pointillist.

Yet the greatest significance of the carvings — which makes them more precious even than the cave paintings discovered recently in the Grotte Chauvet near Avignon — is the fact that they are all in the open air. There are nearly 300 caves in Europe with prehistoric paintings; there are, in contrast, only five, relatively small open-air sites. The Coa Valley is the sixth. Jean Clottes, the French archaeologist and president of the International Committee for Rock Art, has described the Coa Valley as "one of the most important, if not the most important, outdoor palaeolithic sites we know of". Such a claim should not be ignored.

These treasures from our prehistory are now in peril of an ignominious obliteration. Even Unesco has argued strongly that all building on the project must stop. With an obduracy that does Portugal no credit, however — and with a modernist hubris more commonly associated with regimes in the Third World — the Government in Lisbon still insists on its dam. But the primordial engravings of the Coa Valley are not the heritage of Portugal alone. The art of the earliest Everyman is the common heritage of us all. The dam must not be built.

A NEW BOLSHOI

The end of an era for Russian ballet

With the resignation of Yuri Grigorovich, the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre, one of the last bastions of Stalinism in the arts has finally been breached. Like the spellbound castle in *The Sleeping Beauty*, the colonnaded theatre in the centre of Moscow seemed frozen in time. The building was crumbling, the glory was fading, but inside the Old Guard still held sway. The theatre had never come to terms with the end of Communism and its own privileged position in the Soviet system. Grigorovich had run the company for more than 30 years, and like the system he served, had tolerated neither dissent nor change.

To the great sadness of those who remember its heyday, the company has become fossilised. A frisson ran through the ballet world when the troupe first broke out of postwar Soviet isolation and burst on to Western stages, its discipline and masculine energy generating an excitement that Western audiences had never known. No more. The Bolshoi's attempt to take London by storm two years ago broke even, but received dismal reviews. Last year was even more humiliating: two thirds of the planned performances had to be cancelled, so poor were the bookings. The story has been the same elsewhere: the more the theatre has toured, to earn vital hard currency, the more its performances have seemed jaded.

Inevitably the pressures within the theatre have mounted. Resentment of Grigorovich is nothing new: even back in Brezhnev's days artistic tantrums and jealous denunciations of the ballet's once brilliant chief choreographer were causing scandals, and on occasions the squabbling went all the way up to the Politburo. For the ballet was indeed a matter of state policy: it won prestige for the Soviet Union, it inspired genuine national pride, and, with a history stretching back some 200 years, it was seen as a link to the past that gave the present Soviet system historical legitimacy.

But the embrace of Communism was fatal in ways that dancers did not foresee when they made their political compromises or enjoyed the fruits of foreign travel. With the breakup of the Soviet Union the ballet suffered a huge loss of popularity, partly because of the asssociation with the old regime (fatally reinforced by constant television broadcasts of *Swan Lake* during the abortive 1991 coup) and partly because freedom opened up other possibilities — discos, videos, Western films and rock concerts. Generous state subsidies were cut, the best soloists signed contracts with Western companies, and the Bolshoi, like old Soviet factories, carried on turning out obsolete goods with underpaid workers, overseen by a man who still treated the company as his feudal demesne.

Yuri Grigorovich, inevitably, became the focus of the discontent. Few denied his past glories — *Spartacus* is one of the greatest ballets of the postwar era — but everyone thought it was time he stepped aside. There were strikes, violent confrontations with the struggling new management and further defections. In the end, the pressure obviously became too much for the 68-year-old Grigorovich. His departure, after so long, leaves a gaping hole in a company trained in his ways for two generations. The challenge for his successor is to rebuild a new Bolshoi that can live up to the demands of a post-Communist Russia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Labour scheme to discipline judges

From Sir Michael Ogden, QC

Sir, A Labour Party consultation paper, "Access to Justice" (report, February 20), states that a Labour government will create an independent Judicial Appointment and Training Commission which could have amongst its responsibilities handling complaints about judicial conduct and discipline. Although it is a consultation paper, judicial discipline is not one of the topics in the questions selected for consultation.

Although the creation of this commission with disciplinary powers over the judges is said to be "in order to guarantee the independence of the judiciary", it is plain that it would have a contrary effect.

Since the Act of Settlement in 1700 High Court judges can be removed from office only following affirmative resolutions in both Houses of Parliament. There is no other disciplinary power which can be exercised against them. (It has happened only once: an Irish judge in 1830.)

To replace the power of Parliament to remove judges and to give it to a commission, the members of which would be appointed by the government of the day, would seriously erode judicial independence which the authors of the paper rightly state to be something "on which our liberty depends". Furthermore, it would increase current problems over recruitment of judges.

Our leading constitutional lawyer, Sir William Wade, QC, has said that security of tenure of superior judges (ie, High Court and above) is a "cardinal principle" (*Administrative Law*, 7th edition, page 78). The Labour Party's suggestion of a commission with disciplinary powers over all judges poses a grave constitutional threat; it should be abandoned at once.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL OGDEN,
2 Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4.
March 7.

Asleep at the wheel

From Mr Anthony Howell

Sir, Dr Thomas Stuttaford's article on driver fatigue as a cause of motorway accidents (Body and Mind, March 7) concludes with a reassurance that "a quick nap will work wonders". But, given that an attack of acute drowsiness may descend with incredible speed, why must the British motorist rely on the proximity of a commercial rest-station in order to revive wakefulness by this simple expedient?

In many parts of the Continent the problem is mitigated by a far less intermittent siting of what the French term *aires* along the route. These are places where one can simply pull in, nod off and possibly relieve oneself, unadorned by expensive glass palaces purveying fuel and provender. If narcolepsy ambushes the system so effectively, we should call for remedies against the mayhem this condition may cause.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY HOWELL,
21 Augusta Street,
Adamsdown, Cardiff.
March 7.

From Mr Bryan Corsham

Sir, Bearing in mind the probability that many accidents are caused by driver fatigue ("Tiredness kills", Car 95, March 4), it is unfortunate that, although many cars are claimed to have improved air temperature control, fewer of them offer separate supplies of air to the upper and lower vents.

On a long journey during a cold day or night I need to keep a cool head, but my feet and especially my passenger's feet warm.

In the course of selecting a car to buy, I was struck by the scarcity of medium-priced British cars that could offer what I hold to be a necessity, a separate cool-air supply to the face.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. CORSHAM,
Monkton House, Burton Lane,
Monks Risborough,
Buckinghamshire.

Trimming of sails

From Mr Alfred Doll-Steinberg

Sir, By his own criterion Matthew Parris ("Lamont succumbs to rational behaviour", March 3) must have been a superb politician — or maybe he has learnt the art since becoming a journalist.

In his previous day's piece, "Electric debate illuminates a static policy", referring to Mr Blair's refusal to give way to Mr Lamont for a second time in Wednesday's debate, Matthew Parris wrote: "Blair's refusal ... sent a little flurry of unease down into the subconscious." But next day, his subconscious presumably having been appeased overnight, Matthew Parris was able to write approvingly: "When Lamont tried to ask a second question, Blair refused to let him ... A wise precaution ..."

Clearly we have gained a great journalist but at what a cost.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED DOLL-STEINBERG,
18 Holly Walk,
Hampstead, NW3.
March 3.

Weekend Money letters, page 31

View of homosexual love challenged

From Professor Andrew Miles

Sir, It seems extraordinary that Cardinal Basil Hume should explicitly teach (report, March 8) that "love between two persons, whether of the same or of a different sex, is to be treasured and respected", yet judges it necessary to qualify his statement by describing homosexual genital acts as "objectively disordered" and "morally wrong". It is an incontrovertible fact that the sexual function provides valuable support in human relationships.

How, then, can acts which are specifically designed to underpin and develop love be of themselves intrinsically morally wrong? The Church believes procreation to be the singular purpose of the sexual function and only secondarily endorses its use for continence within and support of marriage. Homosexual men simply do not have this choice.

The Church's condemnation is quintessentially based on Pauline teaching, yet it is absolutely clear that St Paul had no concept of homosexuality as an entity and always associated this status not as a condition, but rather as a vice, in otherwise heterosexual (and married) men. Furthermore, is the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent Father terribly concerned with transient anatomical interactions or is He likely to be more centrally concerned with human love, warmth and charity?

The aesthetics are the private concern of the individuals themselves. Homosexuality cannot be compared with organic or psychological disease. No scientist has convincingly or reproducibly provided *de facto* evidence of difference between homosexuals and heterosexuals and it is increasingly acknowledged that homosexuality is one of the many well recognised diversities, *not diseases*, of nature. It is "morally wrong" of any influential individual to continue to condemn homophobia yet support its continuance through untenable philosophy.

I agree that many homosexual and lesbian couples are not suitable to foster children. Multiple societal pressures, routinely exerted on these individuals, frequently destabilise their relationships.

Others, however, especially professionals, effectively resist such pressures and would make excellent parents or guardians of otherwise unparented, unloved children. All other societal rights must be afforded to homosexuals. To suggest that they should not be is frankly offensive in a civilised society.

Surely our increased tolerance of homosexuality is a direct result of our increased understanding. This is to be welcomed because ignorance *per se* is undesirable and is well recognised as the basis of so much unrest in our world — historical and indeed current. It is lamentable that His Eminence has demonstrated only such limited understanding.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
ANDREW MILES,
38 Belgrave Mews North,
Belgravia, SW1.
March 8.

A moral vision

From the National Secretary, YMCA England

Sir, In building the new moral order proposed by Dr Jonathan Sacks (Agenda, March 6) particular attention should be paid to the role of young people. We very much agree with the Chief Rabbi that it is time to send them clear moral signals. Research for the YMCA last year showed that nearly a third of young people believe they live in an uncaring society and 8 per cent are concerned about political corruption.

If young people lack faith in a society that has been apt to blame them for its problems we can hardly claim to be surprised, but if we want to send them clear moral signals we have to make sure that they trust the sender.

We must also prove that we can give them the chance to make a real contribution. Our research showed that 50 per cent of young people were deeply concerned about unemployment. If we want to make them feel a part of society we must offer them a future.

If it is to succeed, the new order must be community based, it must be one in which all young people can play a part, in which they want to play a part, and in which they are seen as part of the solution and not part of the problem.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS NIGHTINGALE,
National Secretary, YMCA England,
National Council of YMCAs,
640 Forest Road, E17.
March 6.

From the Reverend Paul Morris

Sir, The two extracts from *Faith in the Future* (March 6, 8) were more akin to the work of a moral philosopher than a religious leader. Where was the call to return to God which characterised Dr Sacks's forebears?

The Hebrew Scriptures to which he referred always make ungodliness the cause of unrighteousness, as David wrote in Psalm 14: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works." Likewise that is the opening theme of Paul in his letter to the Romans.

The moral degeneration which exists in Britain today, and which Dr Sacks so well describes, is the product of turning from the God of the Bible. Hope for the future lies only in returning to Him.

Dr Sacks touched lightly on a religious theme in his second extract when he spoke of "covenant". But he undermined his argument by stating that there are different moralities for different societies, when the moral principles enshrined in the Law that God gave to Israel is for all societies.

We need religious leaders who will learn from the past and call people back to God with authority and without fear. Furthermore, we must acknowledge, as Dr Sacks apparently fails to do, that we need divine help in this.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL MORRIS
(Elder, Woodford
Evangelical Church),
14 Hereford Road, Wanstead, E11.

Irish questions

From Mr Tom Hewitt

Sir, Certainly it would be an act of naivety for the Government to issue an ultimatum to the IRA to surrender their arms (leading article, March 9, "Road to disarmament"). However, it cannot be right that "the disarmament of the IRA is the most important precondition of a lasting peace".

What does it matter how many rifles or pounds of Semtex are in their possession so long as they are not being used? I suspect that the IRA could "recommission" at some future time just as quickly as they are now being encouraged to "decommission". Let them talk. Surrendering their arms would be merely symbolic.

Yours faithfully,
TOM HEWITT,
26 Bradford Drive,
Ewell, Surrey.
March 9.

From Dr D. L. Armstrong

Sir, "Unionists are out of touch, say business leaders", according to your headline (report, February 24, later editions). As a grassroots Unionist I dispute that statement. It is the business leaders, or perhaps only the ones you quote, who are out of touch.

My British citizenship is much more valuable to me than a planeload of Irish-American tourists and that priceless asset is threatened by the framework document. The support of business leaders can regrettably always be bought with "gongs" and grants and both will be on tap in the Government's desperate efforts to promote the "sell-out" to Irish republicanism. I put much more reliance on Messrs Molyneaux and Paisley to safeguard my interest than the CBI.

Yours faithfully,
D. L. ARMSTRONG,
31 West Drive, Aldwick Bay,
Bognor Regis, West Sussex.

Victoria's glory

From Dr Margaret L. Price

Sir, Much criticism is levelled at the British rail system, but recently I was struck by the excellence of one London station and the shabbiness of a French one.

I frequently travel to London via Victoria. The station is light and cheerful and relatively litter-free with pleasant shops. I am comfortable walking through there in the late evening alone.

Travelling from Charles de Gaulle airport to the Gare du Nord in Paris (cf. Gatwick to London via Victoria), I was appalled by the dirt and dinginess of the station, which was piled high with litter. I did not know whether to be reassured or further disquieted by the two burly security guards patrolling with their muzzled alsatians. Common sense told me not to venture there after dark. As a first impression of Paris, it was dreadful.

Never mind the teething problems over the Chunnel. In Victoria versus the Gare du Nord, England wins hands down.

Yours sincerely,
MEG PRICE,
100 The Drive, Hove, Sussex.

Remand prisoners

From Mr Donald Maxwell

Sir, There are many aspects of the Craig Charles rape allegation case (report, March 4) which give cause for concern. I have one very simple point to make. Mr Charles was held in a remand cell where, he said, he had to "urinate and defecate in a bucket in front of other people".

I had no idea that this undignified and humiliating treatment could still be meted out to British citizens who are charged, but not found guilty of any crime. I even thought that convicted prisoners no longer had to "slop out". Maybe, when someone is found guilty, they are given a first-class cell with their own flushing toilet and opportunity to order fillet steak.

I am not unsympathetic to animal rights and the problems of calves and foxes, but let us first of all, as a much higher priority, devote more time, energy and protest to achieving basic rights and dignity for humans in this country.

Yours sincerely,
DONALD MAXWELL,
9 Bradgate, Cuffley,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire.
March 6.

A price to pay for mountain rescue?

From Mr Rodney Deitch

Sir, Mr G. P. A. Thompson (letter, March 8) is infuriated that "undeserving perishers" in danger on British mountains do not have to pay to be rescued.

The rationing by cost that he proposes would certainly succeed insofar as only relatively well-off people would be able to make fools of themselves on mountains. But most of us who walk or climb in those places passionately favour equality of access to our last few patches of wilderness.

Mountain rescuers (whose services I have not yet needed) are volunteers. They do it out of altruism. I hope Mr Thompson will contribute a pound coin, at least, the next time he sees a mountain rescue team collecting box.

Yours sincerely,
RODNEY DEITCH,
33 New Road, N8.
March 8.

From Mr Timothy Pryse

Sir, Very often when people climb during the winter they are experienced and well equipped. This does not exclude them from having accidents, as most accidents are probably caused by the weather conditions changing after the walk or climb has begun.

Mr Thompson suggests a deposit should be paid before climbers set out during the winter months, but I feel that this would endanger more lives than it would save. People might be inclined to try to rescue themselves or friends, and not call out a mountain rescue team, because they have not paid a deposit. Anyway, the example he suggests of £100 would probably only just cover the fuel costs of the team.

In December of last year, I suffered a severe respiratory problem whilst walking in the Brecon Beacons. I was upset enough about the fact that a mountain rescue team was called, without having to endure Mr Thompson's "undeserving perisher" comment. If the team had not acted promptly, because they needed to see a deposit receipt for example, I would have perished.

I do not have this point of view because I do not wish to pay a deposit. I have been a member of a mountain rescue team for about two-and-a-half years, the same team which saved my life in December.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY PRYSE,
Lyndhurst, Aberdare Road,
Mountain Ash, Mid Glamorgan.
March 8.

From Mr J. D. W. Freeman-Attwood

Sir, It seems odd that Mr Thompson should get quite so infuriated by "undeserving" climbers who are injured and need assistance. Climbing, a risk sport, and walking have enormously increased over recent years and so inevitably will the amount of accidents.

It should be remembered that the rescuers are themselves climbers, or presumably they would be no good at their job, who can in turn just as easily get into trouble when climbing for their own enjoyment. The financial argument is a spurious one since a great deal of the money is raised by donation and the rescuers are often volunteers.

I have led or participated in 14 Antarctic and Himalayan expeditions. Despite that experience I could just as easily become another of Mr Thompson's "perishers" — but not a foolhardy one.

Yours faithfuly,
JULIAN FREEMAN-ATTWOOD,
The Forestry Office,
Keeper's Bridge, Woodhouse Estate,
Rednal, Oswestry, Shropshire.
March 8.

Climbing life's ladder

From Mrs S. P. Comer

Sir, We are well down the line in the acronymic ages of man (letters, February 28, March 4, 7) — just "Fagends" (Five adorable grandchildren endlessly needing dosh).

Yours faithfully,
S. P. COMER,
Barn Cottage, Church Road,
Leigh, Reigate, Surrey.
March 7.

From Mr Neil Bloom

Sir, May I recommend living in "Triumph" (Two rowdy infants, unemployed, middle-aged, planning hopefully).

Yours faithfully,
NEIL BLOOM,
66 Durlston Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
March 6.

From Mrs Delyth Burton

Sir, My husband and I are now happily "Triking" (Two retirement incomes, kids independent, no grandchildren). We intend to make the most of this phase before becoming spent "Biros" (Bedridden, income/insurance/investment running out).

Yours faithfully,
DELYTH BURTON,
45 The Lea, Trentham,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 10: The Duke of Edinburgh today visited Bedfordshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr Samuel Whitbread).

His Royal Highness this morning visited the Royal Air Force Museum Restoration and Storage Centre, Royal Air Force Cardington.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and President, National Playing Fields Association, later attended a Luncheon at Southill Park, Biggleswade.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Shuttleworth Collection of Historic Aircraft and Vehicles, Old Warden.

Sir Brian McGrath was in attendance.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of The President of the Republic of Korea and Mrs Kim Young Sam and bade farewell to His Excellency and Mrs Young Sam on behalf of Her Majesty.

March 10: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Irish Regiment, this afternoon received Lieutenant Colonel George Hislop upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer, 9th Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Charles Sloan upon assuming the appointment.

March 10: Today is the Anniversary of the Birthday of The Prince Edward.

March 10: The Princess Royal today attended the following engagements in Colombo: as President, Save the Children Fund, Her Royal Highness visited the fund's offices and Street Programme; The Princess Royal, as President, visited the Missions to Seamen; Her Royal Highness, President, Chartered Institute of Transport United Kingdom, attended a Conference and Exhibition "Transport - Moving Towards the Year 2000".

The Princess Royal this evening attended a Government Reception at Temple Trees and was received by the Prime Minister (the Hon Mrs Sirimaura Bandaranaike).

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended a Dinner at the High Commissioner's Residence and was received by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency Mr John Field).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 10: The Prince of Wales today visited Portsmouth and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

His Royal Highness this morning visited Flag Officer Surface Flotilla, HM Naval Base.

The Prince of Wales afterwards attended the Royal Navy Film Corporation's Annual General Meeting and Luncheon on board HMS Victory.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the offices of "Navy News".

The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, subsequently visited Baltic House, Kingston Crescent.

His Royal Highness later inaugurated the new viewing galleries for the Mary Rose and attended a Reception.

Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

Royal engagements

Tomorrow
The Queen will give tea to the Archbishops of the Anglican Communion at Windsor Castle, at 4.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the London Suzuki Group, will attend a concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall at 2.55.

Memorial services

Judge Kenneth Richardson, QC
The Lord Chief Justice, the President of the Family Division, the Recorder of London and the Solicitor General were present at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Judge Kenneth Richardson, QC, held on Thursday at the Temple Church. Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated. Mr Jeremy Richardson, son, read the lesson and Mr David Richardson, son, read from the works of John Donne. Mr Robin Simpson, QC, gave an address. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, the Swordbearer and the Common Serjeant attended.

Among others present were:
Mr and Mrs David Hutchison (son-in-law and daughter), Kitty Hutchison (granddaughter), Mrs David Richardson (daughter-in-law), Dr and Mrs Stan Richardson (brother and sister-in-law), Miss Audrey Richardson (sister), Mr and Mrs Gerald Creagh (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Miss Tamar Lederman, Dr and Mrs Michael Brookes.

Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, and Lady Rawlinson, Lord Wigoder, QC, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Baroness Mallalieu, QC, Lady Russell of Killowen, Lord and Lady Roskill, Lord Ackner, Lord Templeman, Lord and Lady Nolan, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, Lord Justice Farquharson, Lord Justice Rose, Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Russell, Lord Justice and Lady Swinton Thomas, Lord Justice Simon Brown, Master Lowry and Master Calvert, QC, Sir Ian Percival, QC, Sir John May, Sir Ralph Gibson, Mr Justice Waterhouse (treasurer, Middle Temple) and Lady Waterhouse.

Mr Justice Clarke, Mr Justice Mance, Mr Justice Longmore, Mr Justice Buckley, Mr Justice Tucker, Mr Justice Garland, Mr Justice Collins, Mr Justice Mitchell, Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr Justice Alliott, Mr Justice McCullough, Sir Barry and Lady Sheen, Lady (Hugh) Forbes, Sir Denis Dobson, QC, Sir Peter and Lady Webster, Sir Douglas Falconer, Sir Barry Shaw, QC, Sir Allan Green, QC, Sir James Nursaw, QC, Sir Robert Carnwath, QC, Sir Peter and Lady Webster, His Honour Sir David West-Russell, Sir Ralph Kilner Brown, Lady Tudor-Price, Lady Borrie.

Judge Rant (Judge Advocate General), Judge and Mrs Michael Coombe, Judge Capstick, QC, and Mrs Capstick, Judge Pearlman, Judge Hawkins, QC, Judge Rivlin, QC, Judge Richard Lowry, QC, and Judge Nina Lowry, Judge Anne Goddard, QC, Judge Grigson, Judge Gordon, Judge Francis Petre, Judge Watling, QC, Judge Rogers, QC, Judge Henry Pownall, QC, and Mrs Pownall, Judge Rich, Judge Mildon, QC, Judge Hull, Judge Richard Havery, QC, Judge Anthony Thornton, QC, His Honour Alan King-Hamilton, QC, His Honour Robert Lymbery, His Honour Israel Finestein, QC.

Mr Clive Nicholls, QC, (Head of Chambers, 3 Raymond Buildings) and Mrs Nicholls, Mr Colin Nicholls, QC, Mrs Barbara Mills, QC, Mr P B Carter, QC, and Mrs Carter, Miss Jean Southworth, QC, Mr Percy Grieve, QC, Mr Graham Boal, QC, Mr Robert Harman, QC, Mr Julian Bevan, QC, and Mrs Bevan, Mr Nigel Wilkinson, QC, (Bar Golfing Society), Mr Anthony Glass, QC, Mr David Jeffreys, QC, Mr Tim Cassel, QC, Mr Godfrey Carey, QC, Mr John Mathew, QC, and Mrs Mathew, Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC, Mr Michael Sayers, QC, Mr Michael Worsley, QC, Mr Ian Mayes, QC, Mr T C Field-Fisher, QC, Mr D Owen Thomas, QC, Mr Alasdair Fraser, QC, Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC.

Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, (Middle Temple Advocacy), Mr Peter Boydell, QC, Miss Sheila Cameron, QC, Miss Linda Sullivan, QC, Mr Leslie Joseph, Qc, Miss Diana Cotton, QC, Mr Robin Stewart, QC, Mr Daniel Hollis, QC, and Mrs Hollis, Miss Ann Curnow, QC, Mr John Toulmin, QC, Mr Michael Essayan, QC, Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC, Mr Robin Simpson, QC, and Mrs Simpson, Mr Pat Back, QC, Mr Allan Heyman, QC, Mr Alun Jones, QC, Mr Paul Purnell, QC, Master McKenzie (Master, Criminal Appeals), Mr David Whitehouse, QC, Mr Philip Owen, QC, Mr William Clegg, QC, Mr Richard Sutton, QC.

Mrs Joseph Robinson, Rear-Admiral and Mrs J R Hill, Dr and Mrs Michael Yates, Miss Audrey Jennings, Mr Brian Masters, Mrs John Edwards, Mr Christian Du Cann, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Gotch, Dr Ian Jackson, Mr John Winnington-Ingram, Mr and Mrs Paul Williams, Mr Carl Moore, Miss Veronica Elston, Mrs Maureen Evans, Mr and Mrs G E McClelland, Mr Robert Percival, Mr and Mrs William De Salis, Mr Geoffrey Ashmore, Group Captain John Constable, Dr Oliver Scott, Mrs Anna Greenacre, Miss Elspeth Hutchinson, Mr Mark Hutchinson, Miss Kate Hutchinson, Miss Kate Simpson, Mr David Clavert Smith, Mr Simon Block, Mr and Mrs W F W Bischoff, Mr James Campbell, Mr A Tait, Miss Melissa Swinton Thomas, Mr Robert Flach.

Brigadier Charles Wright (Under-Treasurer, Middle Temple), Mrs Richard Saunders (chairman, Sheriffs and Recorders Fund), Chief Inspector Barry Smith (City of London Police), Mr John Nutting (representing the Treasury Counsel at the Central Criminal Court), Mr David Van Hee (chairman Middle Temple Hall Committee), Mr Peter Fonette (president, Old Ruthian Association) and Mr D W Swarbrick (Merton Society).

Professor Gerry Taylor
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Gerry Taylor was held yesterday at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield. The Rev Michael Whawell officiated. Professor John Lumley, Professor of Vascular Surgery, St Bartholomew's Hospital, and Dr Mark B. Taylor, son, read the lessons.

Mr Martin Birnstingl, Miss Alison Knapp, Professor Roger Greenhalgh, Dean of Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, and Professor Sir Miles Irving, Professor of Surgery, Manchester University, paid tribute.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.C. Beaver
and Miss A.A.P. Barr
The engagement is announced between Andrew Craig, youngest son of Mr John Beaver, of Saudi Arabia, and Mrs Jean Beaver, of Washford, Somerset, and Alexandra Anne Pooler, only daughter of Major General and Mrs John Barr, of Stirling and Putney, London.

Mr C.H. Boot
and Miss H.M. Masterton
The engagement is announced between Christopher Howard, second son of Mr and Mrs Boot, and Heather Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs Louden Masterton.

Mr G.N. Cattermole
and Miss V.C.L. Forrest
The engagement is announced between Giles Nicholas, elder son of the Rev Paul and Mrs Penelope Cattermole, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, and Victoria Clare Lawrence, second daughter of Dr Peter and Mrs Averil Forrest, of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr R.J.C. Corfield
and Miss R.H. Harford
The engagement is announced between Rupert, youngest son of Major and Mrs R.C. Corfield, of Radway, Warwick, and Ruth Helena, younger daughter of the Revd and Mrs J.G. Harford, of Latimer, Buckinghamshire.

Mr D.C. Harris
and Miss S.J. Lithiby
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mrs Betty Harris, of North Land, New Zealand and the late Mr George Harris, and Susanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lithiby, of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Mr S.G.H. Helby
and Miss J.L. Taylor
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs R. Helby, of Shamley Green, Surrey, and Julia, daughter of Dr and Mrs D.W. Moran, of Guildford, Surrey, and Mr and Mrs A.H. Taylor, of Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

Dr J.D. Walshe
and Miss H.J. Berry
The engagement is announced between John D., second son of the late Dr John D. Walshe and of Dr Maire B. Walshe, of Shrewsbury Park, Dublin, and Helena, youngest daughter of the late Mr Michael John Berry and of Mrs Mary J. Berry, of Hendon, North West London.

Lieutenant M.N. Marriott, RN,
and Miss L.E. Banfill
The engagement is announced between Mark Nicholas, elder son of Mr Brian Marriott, of Rodsley, Derbyshire, and Mrs John Moulton, of Cheadle, Staffordshire, and Louise Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Banfill, of Radyr, Cardiff.

Mr P. McCormack
and Miss S.J. Morrell
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Peter McCormack, of Errol, Perthshire, and Sarah, daughter of the late Mr Brian Morrell and of Mrs Pamela Morrell, of Antrim, Northern Ireland.

Mr A.C. Setchell
and Miss M.F. McFarland
The engagement is announced between Angus Charles, elder son of Professor and Mrs B.P. Setchell, of Adelaide, Australia, and Margaret Francine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H. McFarland, of Sutton, Surrey.

Mr R.C.C. Stubbs
and Miss J.A. Pollard
The engagement is announced between Robin, younger son of the late Mr John Stubbs and of Mrs Jessica Stubbs, of Weaverham, Cheshire, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Pollard, of Helford Passage, Cornwall.

Marriage

Mr P.J. Cooper
and Miss S.C. Stretton
The marriage took place yesterday at St Mary's, Nedging, Suffolk, of Mr Patrick Cooper, son of Mr Sean Cooper, of Sherston, Wiltshire, and Lady Hillingdon, of Layer Breton, Essex, to Miss Susanna Stretton, daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Stretton, of Nab Wood, Yorkshire. The Rev Howard Crellin officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Mr Michael Pope was best man.

A reception was held at Hintlesham Hall, Hintlesham, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Appointment

Professor Hazel Genn to the main board of the Judicial Studies Board in succession to Professor Martin Partington.

Weekend birthdays

Liza Minnelli, actress and singer, is 49 tomorrow

Today
Mr Douglas Adams, author, 43; Mr Terence Alexander, actor, 72; Miss Agatha Barbara, former President, Malta, 72; Sir John Batten, former Physician to The Queen, 71; Mr K.L. Bedell-Pearce, chief executive, Prudential Financial Services, 49; Professor A.O. Betts, former Principal, Royal Veterinary College, 68; Dr John Beynon, former Principal, King's College London, 56; Miss Louise Brough, tennis player, 72; Mr Michael Cartiss, MP, 57; Lord Congleton, 65; Sir Kenneth Dover, former President, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 75; Mr D.J. Enright, writer, 75; Mr Peter Eyre, actor, 53; Mr Michael Flesch, QC, 55; Mr David Gentleman, painter and designer, 65; Mr Jonathan Gestetner, chairman, Marlborough Rare Books 55; Professor T.C. Gray, anaesthetist, 82; Miss Margaret Herbison, former MP, 88; Viscount Hood, 81; Mr Raymond Jackson (Jak), cartoonist, 68; Lord Lawson of Blaby, 63; Sir Fitzroy Maclean, KT, former MP, 84; Sir Henry Marking, former chairman, British Tourist Authority, 75; Mr Timothy Mason, former director, Scottish Arts Council, 50; Air Marshal Sir Alec Morris, 69; Lord Mowbray and Stourton, 72; Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive, The News Corporation, 64; Miss Erica O'Donnell, founder, Study Centre for the History of the Fine and Decorative Arts, 75; Mr Justice Pill, 57; Professor Philip Rahtz, archaeologist, 74; Mrs Jennifer Smith, Principal, Harrogate Ladies' College, 45; Mr Richard Smith, editor, British Medical Journal, 43; Sir Keith Speed, MP, 61; Sir Iain Tennant, KT, Lord Lieutenant of Morayshire, 76; Miss Patricia Tindale, architect, 69; Mr Ron Todd, trade unionist, 68; Sir Peter Walters, non-executive chairman, SmithKline Beecham 64; Mr J. Whybrow, chairman, Philips UK, 48; Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, KG, 79; Mr Tony Wright, MP, 47; Mr Alan Yentob, controller, BBC 1, 48.

Tomorrow
Sir Antony Acland, diplomat, 65; Dr Giovanni Agnelli, chairman, Fiat Group, 74; Mr Rudolph Agnew, chairman, Lasmo, 61; Mr Edward Albee, dramatist, 67; Mr R.E. Alley, artist, 69; Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for Health, 47; Mr Norbert Brainin, concert violinist, 72; Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue, Director of the Royal Collection, 64; Mr Willie Duggan, rugby player, 45; Mr John Gross, writer, 60; Mr Norman Hogg, MP, 57; Mr Philip Jones, former Principal, Trinity College of Music, 67; Mr Anish Kapoor, artist and sculptor, 41; Mr A.D. Loehnis, banker, 59; Mr David Mellor, QC, MP, 46; Mr David Mlinaric, interior designer, 56; the Hon Roland Moyle, former MP, 67; Sir Tom Normanton, former MP, 78 Mr Patrick Procktor, painter, 59.

Mr Rod Richards, MP, 48; Mr James Taylor, singer, 47; Viscount Trenchard, 44; Mr Julian Treuherz, keeper, Art Galleries, National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside, 48; Miss Elizabeth Vaughan, soprano, 58; Mr Paul Way, golfer, 32; Mr David O. Williams, trade unionist, 69; Mr David Wilmot, Chief Constable, Greater Manchester, 52; Miss Googie Withers, actress, 78.

Service luncheon

HMS Victory
The Prince of Wales was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday by Admiral Sir Michael Layard, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, onboard the flagship HMS Victory in Portsmouth.

Service dinners

Royal Marines
Major-General John Hardy presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, KG, Mr Oliver Lodge, Commander Tony Rowe and Captain Malcolm Carver, RN, were among the guests.

Birmingham University Royal Naval Unit
Captain S. Moore, Captain of the Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth, was the guest of honour at the inaugural mess dinner of the Birmingham University Royal Naval Unit held last night at HMS Forward. Professor M.S. Snaith, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University, was the principal academic guest.

Oxford University OTC
The Lord Mayor of Oxford attended the annual dinner of the Oxford University OTC given last night at Keble College by Lieutenant Colonel J.S.M. Walker, King's Own Scottish Borderers, commanding officer of the corps, and the officers and officer cadets. General Sir Charles Guthrie, Chief of the General Staff, was the speaker. The dinner marked the appointment of Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose as honorary colonel.

Dinners

Royal Society of St George
Mr Robert Sewell, Chairman of the City of Westminster branch of the Royal Society of St George, presided at a dinner held last night at New Zealand House. The High Commissioner for New Zealand, Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, branch president and Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, and Major-General C. Tyler also spoke. The Chairman of the Royal Society and Mr Linton, the Vice-Chairman of the City of London branch, and the President and Chairman of the Associate branch in Stuttgart were among the guests.

British Association of Aviation Consultants
Mr J.M. (Mike) Ramsden was awarded the Sir Peter Masefield Medal in recognition of his service to the aviation industry at the annual dinner of the British Association of Aviation Consultants held last night at St John's Gate.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Sir Henry Tate, founder of the Tate Gallery, Chorley, 1819; Sir Malcolm Campbell, holder of speed records on land and water, Chislehurst, Kent, 1885; Dorothy Gish, stage and film actress, Dayton, Ohio, 1898; Jessie Matthews, singer and actress, London, 1907.

DEATHS: Hannah Cowley, dramatist and poet, Tiverton, 1809; Sir James Outram, general, Pau, France, 1863; Rolf Boldrewood (Thomas A. Browne), novelist, Melbourne, 1915; Victor Hely-Hutchinson, composer, London, 1947; Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin, Nobel laureate 1945, London, 1955; Richard Byrd, aviator and polar explorer, Boston, Massachusetts, 1957; Earl Stanley Gardner, crime writer, Temecula, California, 1970.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: John Aubrey, antiquary, Easton Pierse, Wiltshire, 1626; Sir Richard Steele, essayist, Dublin, baptised this day 1672; Thomas Arne, composer of Rule Britannia, London, 1710; Lady Hester Stanhope, traveller and eccentric, Chevening, Kent, 1776; John Frederic Daniell, chemist, London, 1790; John Lawrence Toole, actor-manager, London, 1832; Sir William Perkin, inventor of artifical dye, London, 1838; Kemal Ataturk, 1st President of Turkey 1923-38, Salonika, 1881; Vaslav Nijinsky, ballet dancer and choreographer, Kiev, 1890; Jack Kerouac, novelist, Lowell, Massachusetts, 1922.

DEATHS: St Gregory, Pope 590-604, Rome, 604; Alessandro Magnasco, painter, Genoa, 1749; Sun Yat-sen, President of the Republic of China 1911-12, Peking, 1925; Ivar Kreuger, financier, the "Match King", committed suicide, Paris, 1932; Anne Frank, diarist, Belsen concentration camp, 1945; Heinrich Mann, novelist, California, 1950.

Church services tomorrow

Second Sunday in Lent

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch; 6.30 Choral E.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Rt Rev D Hallatt; 4 Choral E, Rev Canon A Priestley.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Choral M, Since by man came death (Handel); 10.30 Euch, Wood in the phrygian mode, Canon M Taylor; 4 Choral E, Canon P Hallam.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Missa brevis (Mozart), How beautiful are the feet (Handel), Canon P Johnson; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Sumsion), The Bristol Service (Warren), The Dean.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Responses (Morley), Jackson in G, Stanford in C, Drop drop slow tears (Walton); 11 S Euch, Coronation Mass (Haydn), The Bishop; 3.15 E, Responses (Morley), Howells in B minor; 6.30 Compline, The Dean.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), The Archdeacon; 3 E, Let thy merciful ears (Mudd), Responses (Smith).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev J Jones; 11.15 S Euch, Choral M, Responses (Byrd), Elgar in F, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Canon D Knight; 6 Choral E, Responses (Byrd), Wood in F, Salvator Mundi (Blow), Canon B Thompson.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Benedicite in B flat (Henry Purcell), Canon T Dennis; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Leighton), Out of the deep (Batten); 6.30 ES, Canon T Dennis.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Jackson in G, Responses (Tomkins), Remember not Lord (Purcell), Rt Rev M Manktelow; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Drop Drop slow tears (Leighton), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Smart in G, Remember O Lord (Walmisley), Responses (Tomkins).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Leddington Wright, Mass in three parts (Byrd), Locus iste (Bruckner), Cast me not away (Wesley), Canon P Oestreicher; 3 German Lutherans; 5.30 E, Locus iste (Bruckner), Faux bourdons (Morley), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Coll Reg (Howells), O sacrum convivium (Croce), Canon D Brown; 10 M, Purcell in B flat, Hear my prayer O Lord (Purcell), Canon R Coppin; 3.30 E, Darke in F, O Lord look down from heaven (Battishill).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in D (Dvorak), The Lamentation (Bairstow), Rev Canon C A Hill; 3.45 E, Preces (Shephard), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Lord for thy mercy's sake, Ashfield (Rite A), Ave Verum Corpus (Byrd), Rt Rev C Docker, The Cross and Revelation of God; 11.30 M, Bairstow, The Lamentation, The Treasurer; 3 E, Responses (Byrd), ; 6.30 E, Purcell, Thou knowest Lord, Rev I Morter..

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), O Taste and see (Vaughan Williams), The Provost; 4 Choral E, Sumsion in G, Evening Hymn (Balfour Gardiner), Responses (Ayleward), The Canon.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), Benedicite in G (Jackson), O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Responses (Rose).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), The Subdean; 11.15 M, Purcell in B flat, Ireland in F, Turn thy face from my sins; 3.45 E, Fifth service (Tomkins), So God loved the world (Gibbons), Rev Dr M Semple.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Lassus Missa Bel Amfitrit Altera, Canon Dr J Elford; 3 Choral E, Canon M Boyling; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8, 12.15 H Euch, Rev Boon-Hor Khoo; 9 Euch, Rev J Redvers Harris; 11 S Euch, Vaughan Williams in D minor, Christus factus est pro nobis obediens (Anerio), The Canon; 3.30 Choral E, Call to remembrance O Lord (Farrant); 6.30 E, The Dean.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8, The Provost; 9.30, Darke in F, Greater love (Ireland), The Provost; 6, Responses (Ayleward), Purcell in G minor, Remember not Lord our offences / Thou knowest Lord (Purcell).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Loosemore, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Drop drop slow tears (Leighton), Canon J Davies; 11.30 M, Responses (Ebdon), Benedicite in A (Harris), What God ordains (Bach), Canon B Lomax; 3 E, Responses (Ebdon), Westminster Service (Howells), Remember O Lord what is come upon us (Walmisley).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, Turn back O man (Holst), God so loved the world (Stainer), Rev G Swinton; 3 E, Walmisley in D minor, Lord I call upon thee (Bairstow), The Provost.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Curate; 10 S Euch, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Kyrie Sanctus Benedictus (Duruflé), O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells), The Curate; 3 Esethvos Kernow service; 6 E, Responses (Morley), There is an old belief (Parry), The Chancellor.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Ayleward), Benedicite / Hear my prayer (Purcell), Canon D Gray; 11.15 Euch, Missa aedis christi (Howells), Call to remembrace (Farrant), Canon C Semper; 3 E, Cast me not away (Wesley), Rev P Southall; 6.30 ES, Canon C Semper.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM & Ordination, I was glad (Parry), O nata lux (Tallis); 10 MP; 3.30 V & B, Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Benedictus in C (Stanford), Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Canon Walker; 11.30 Euch, Mass in eight parts (Rheinberger); 3.30 E, Howells in B minor, Lo the full final sacrifice (Finzi), Fantasia in F minor (Mozart).

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, The Litany (Loosemore), Missa Brevis (Leighton), V Rev R Furnell; 11.30 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Jubilate in G (Jackson), Responses (Moore); 4 E, For lo I raise up (Stanford), Rev Canon R Metcalfe.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral M, Responses (Byrd), The Lamentation (Bairstow), Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn), The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), In God alone is my soul at rest (Fessard), Have mercy on me O Lord (Walkiss), Fr A Richins.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10 MS & HC, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), The Minister; 11.30 MS, Like as the hart (Howells), The Minister; 8 ES, Rev S Mitchell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, 11 M, Responses (Tomkins), Ashfield in F, Stanford in C, O Lord God of hosts (Purcell), Rev C Hill; 3.15 E, Gray in F minor, Remember O Lord what is come upon us (Walmisley), Rev P Ferguson.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11 Rev C Hobbs; 6.30 Rev Preb R Bewes.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston St, W1: 11 SM, Missa Ecce quam nonum (Hassler), Tribulationes Civitatem (Handel).

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Western Wind Mass (Taverner), Unus ex discipulis meis / Eram quasi agnus (Vittoria).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children's; 11 M, Short Service (Gibbons), O Lord increase my faith (Gibbons); 6 E, Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 SM, Missa Dominicalis (Vittoria), Justorum animae (Byrd), Ecce tempus idoneum (Tallis), Fr A Meredith.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Mr T Peek; 11, Informal, Rev S Millar; 5, 7.30 Informal, Rev S Downham.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Ecce ego Johannes (Palestrina), Emendemus in melius (Byrd), 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Miserere mei (Victoria).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 MP, Archbishop U Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R John Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev J Evenson.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Canon A Harvey; 6.30 E, Plainsong & Fauxbourdons (Morley), O Lord increase my faith (Loosemore), Rev A Winter.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Harwood in A flat, Salvator Mundi (Tallis), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Daniel Purcell in E minor, Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M, Sumsion in B flat, Stanford in B flat, Wash me thoroughly, Rev B McAvoy.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Messe basse (Faure), Adoramus te Christe (Lassus), Antienne (Gigout).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Byrd 4 part, Tristis est anima mea (Leo), The Rector.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, Stratford E15: 11 Family, Fantasia in G minor (Bach), Rev D Horn.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP, The Bellman's song (Vaughan Williams), Rev S Watson; 6.30 E, Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Judge S Tumim.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Ley in E minor, Rev J Humble.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Western Wynde Mass (Taverner), Lamentiations Part I (Tallis), Rev P Cowell.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 9.15 Primates of the Anglican Communion Euch, Le Roy Kyrie (Taverner), St Martin's Service (Stringer), Salvator Mundi (Blow), Archbishop Desmond Tutu; 2.45 Chinese, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E, Responses (Shepherd), Smart in B flat; 6.30 ES, Rev B Schunemann.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev S Green; 11.15 Choral M, Rev F Gelli; 6.30 Choral E, Rev M Fuller.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7, LM; 11 HM, Communion Serv (Farrant), Canon G Reid; 6 E&B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Plainsong Mass, Lord how long wilt thou be angry (Purcell), Rev S Webster; 6 Prayer & meditation.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa A l'ombre d'ung buissonet (Brumel), Rev R McLaren.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa in honorem Sancti Domini (Rubbra), Salvator mundi (Blow), Rev H Ruschmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa Aspice Domine (Palestrina), Rev A Chidwick.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa a 4 / Ave verum (Byrd) Perfice gressus meos (Lassus), Canon C Colven; 6 B.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Windsor Castle: 8.30 HC; 10.45 M, Responses (Clucas), Benedicite in B flat (Sumsion), Canon D Stanesby; 11.45 S Euch, Let thy merciful ears (Mudd), Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria); 5.15 E, Responses (Rose), Greater love hath no man (Ireland).

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Hymns: 345, 182, 102, Canon J G M W Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Greater Love (Ireland), Rev J Haslam.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Dyson in F, Healey Willan fauxbourdons, Five voices (Tallis); 3.30 E, Beati quorum via (Stanford), Humfrey in E minor, Bring us O Lord God (Harris).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Gabrieli), Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Benedicite (Purcell), Salvator Mundi (Blow), The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Thalben-Ball), Sumsion in D, Benedictus (Jackson), Rev P Butler.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, O Saviour of the world (Goss), The Chaplain; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Holy Holy Holy (Schubert), Rev C French.

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So make us know how few are our days, that our minds may learn wisdom.
Psalm 90 : 12 (REB).

BIRTHS

ALLAN - On 22nd February, at Whipps Cross Hospital, to Bob and Kitty (née Stubbs), a son, Frederik William Scott. A friend for Antigone.

BAKER - On 3rd March, to Philippa (née Root) and David, a daughter, Naomi Kate, a sister for James, Sarah, Rachel, Emma and Simon.

BIGGADIKE - On March 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Janet and Brad, a son, Liam Jordan.

BRAY - On March 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Peter and Marina (née Countess Segur Cabanac), a daughter, Clarissa, a sister for Sebastian.

CANESSA - On Sunday February 5th, to Joanna (née Snelling) and John, a daughter, Beatrice, a sister for Coco and Hedy.

CUMISKY - On February 4th 1995, to Samantha and Calvin, at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, a beautiful son, Lucas Artal Rowe-Beddoe.

GARNER - On 8th March, in Winchester, to Katy (née Slatter) and Peter, a son, William Piers Robert, a brother for Beth.

GUMP - On March 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Laura and Bill, a son, Justin Cannon, a brother for Tyler.

HADLEY - On March 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Eve and Darby, a beautiful son and much wanted grandson, Ryan.

MANNING - To Marion (née Cookson) and Peter, a son, Frederick Peter George, born 1st March 1995.

MEYER - On 1st March, to Catherine (née Meade) and Gary, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, a daughter, Anastasia.

NELSON - On March 7th, to Judy (née Turner) and Andrew, a son, Jack Latham Hampton.

PARKER - On March 8th, to Susan and Henry, a daughter, Stroma Anne, a sister for Redvers.

BIRTHS

RENNEY - On March 7th, to Penny (née Brandler) and Paul, a daughter, Catharine Teresia May, a sister for Isabelle and Olivia.

SCHADE - On March 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Holly and Christian, a daughter, Madeleine, a sister for Katharine.

SILCOCK - On 5th March 1995, to Maaike (née Traill) and George, a son, Robin George, a brother for Charlie.

DEATHS

DAVEY - Joy, beloved wife of Geoffrey Davey of Northallerton, N. Yorkshire and formerly of Kumasi, Ghana, on Friday 10th March 1995, after a short illness. Much loved wife, mother, stepmother and grandmother who will be sorely missed. Cremation on Friday 17th March 1995 at Darlington Crematorium at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, in memory of a lovely lady, to St John of God Hospital, Scorton, nr. Richmond, North Yorkshire.

ELPHICK - On March 7th 1995, at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Reginald Norman, adoring husband of the late Doris, beloved father to Rosemary, Caroline and Hugh, devoted grandfather to Emily, Thomas, Jane and Annie, loving uncle to Roger, Angela, Christopher and Susan and much loved brother to Gilbert and the late Quen. Family funeral has taken place. Memorial Service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, on June 29th at 6 pm. Donations, if desired, for the Leukaemia Research Fund may be sent to Bungard and Sons Limited, 90 Sackville Road, Hove, BN3 3HE.

GOWER - Henry Edwin, peacefully on 9th March 1995, aged 82. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Cavendish, Suffolk, on Thursday 16th March at 2.30 pm. Flowers to H.J. Paintin Ltd., 60 Withersfield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk. (01440) 703218.

DEATHS

HITCHCOCK - On 10th March, peacefully, Frank, MBE, AFC, Group Captain RAF (retd), of St Mary Bourne. Loving husband, father and grandfather. Private funeral. Memorial Service to be announced.

LAING - On Thursday March 9th 1995, Norah Robertson aged 83 years, dear wife of Douglas of Windmill Grange, Histon, Cambridge, much loved mother of Margaret, Rosemary and Evelyn, and a loving grannie. Funeral Service at Histon Parish Church at 2 pm on Tuesday, March 14th, followed by interment in the churchyard. Floral tributes or if desired donations made payable to Mentally Handicapped Society, may be sent to Cambridge Funeral Service, 617 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8PA.

LAMPLOUGH - On March 7th 1995 peacefully in the loving care of St Anne's Court, Dora Louisa, a very dear aunt, great-aunt and cousin. Funeral Service at St Augustin's Church, Bournemouth, on Thursday March 16th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for the R.N.L.I. c/o Head & Whettle, Funeral Directors, 1A Oxford Road, Lansdowne, Bournemouth. (01202) 551190. Please no letters.

MIDDLETON - On March 9th, at Meadow House Hospice, Ealing, Peter Elvey aged 68 years, beloved husband of Sheila, father of Nigel and Christopher, father-in-law of Jenny and Sarah and grandpa of Elizabeth, Hannah, Julia and Eleanor. Funeral Service at Haven Green Baptist Church, Ealing Broadway, on Wednesday 15th March at 11.30 am, followed by private family committal. Family flowers only please, but donations to Cancer Research if desired, and any enquiries should be directed to Henry Paul F/D, 3-7 Uxbridge Road, Hanwell W7.

DEATHS

NEGRI - Rafael aged 34 years. Died suddenly in hospital 9th March. Only son of Tess and the late Clive Negri. Much loved Grandson of Vera and Jimmy. Raf will be so missed by Tess, his family and all who knew and loved him. Requiem Mass at St Augustines, Tunbridge Wells, 10.30 am 17th March, followed by cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if wished to The Bridge Trust c/o T.W. Boorman Funeral Services, 31 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN4 8AA. tel: (01892) 541070.

ROUD-MAYNE - Valerie (née Harper), peacefully at home in Ripon on 7th March. Mother of Catherine and Elizabeth. Funeral details from H. Swainson. tel: (0423) 504571.

SLATER - Gordon J.A., aged 72 years, passed away on 2nd March 1995 after a lengthy illness. Gordon worked for the Daily Telegraph Newspaper and then served overseas with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office until his retirement in 1982. A funeral service will be held at the Kingston Crematorium at 12 noon on 16th March. Enquiries to F.W. Paine. (081) 399-2060.

STILES - On March 9th, peacefully after a long illness, Peter H.S. Stiles, dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Pixham Lane, Dorking, on Thursday March 16th at 3pm. Family flowers only by request. Donations, if desired, to The British Heart Foundation c/o Sherlock & Sons, Trellis House, Dorking.

TREMLETT - On March 8th suddenly but peacefully, Nicholas Mark, dearly loved husband of Sara, much loved and loving father of Zara, Toby, Damian, Sophie, Caroline and Tory. He will be greatly missed by all the family and friends. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Slinfold, on Thursday 16th March at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Injured Jockeys Fund or Crawley and Horsham Scanner Appeal, c/o Freeman Brothers, 9 North Parade, Horsham, W. Sussex.

DEATHS

WELLS - Gordon St.Patrick, on March 6th, in Weybridge Hospital, peacefully after a short illness, aged 87. Much loved companion of Edna and loving brother of Sylvia. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Cremation at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, at 12 noon Wednesday March 15th. Flowers or donations to Weybridge Hospital. Enquiries to F.W. Chitty and Co., tel: (01923) 842220.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BEATTIE - Peter Henry July 5th 1909 - March 11th 1994. Loved and remembered today and every day with treasured memories.

POND - Tania, 11th March 1989. Every day with love we remember. "May God hold you in the hollow of his hand". Mummy, Daddy and Francis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOES ANYONE HAVE EXACT details of menus for lunch and dinner (grill/restaurant) at The Savoy Hotel on V.E. Day (8th of May 1945). Please Reply to Box No 4681

DO NOT PLAY second fiddle, perhaps meet 8.30am on 13th. H & EL.

TO Bristol Uni Rfg. Lots of love Lisa, Sara, Helen, Martin. Scavenger hunt 95

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هكذا من الاصل

JOHN KNIGHT

John Knight, co-founder of the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships, died on March 2 aged 70. He was born in London on May 12, 1924.

IT WAS in the aftermath of the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Dunkirk evacuation that John Knight conceived the idea of the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships. The anniversary, which had brought together a small but disparate group of people, celebrated the extraordinary effort in which the Royal Navy, vitally assisted by a motley flotilla of hundreds of small craft — the Little Ships, as they became known — brought the battered and beaten British Expeditionary Force home from the beaches of northern France.

At the outset of the operation the Admiralty had gloomily estimated that no more than 45,000 troops could possibly be evacuated over two days. Apart from the perils of incessant air attack from the Luftwaffe, there was a desperate shortage of small craft to carry the weary troops from the beaches to the destroyers waiting offshore.

This want was supplied by a hastily assembled armada which ranged from small launches, motor yachts, ex-lifeboats and tugs to spritsail barges and the London firefloat *Massey Shaw*, perhaps the most famous of all the little ships. Like many of the somewhat larger craft of this improvised fleet, *Massey Shaw* made a number of return cross-Channel passages, laden with soldiers, during the operation.

The result was that in nine momentous days, May 26-June 3, 1940, 338,000 men were snatched in Churchill's words, "from the jaws of death and shame" — from the Port of Dunkirk and from the sandy beaches which stretch towards the Belgian frontier. It was a well-nigh miraculous deliverance.

The Association of Dunkirk Little Ships celebrates Operation Dynamo, the code name for the evacuation, and membership is open to anyone owning one of the craft which took part.

John Cecil Thomas Knight was born in St Pancras and educated at the Lyulph Stanley Central School which he left to become apprenticed to a Covent Garden fresh produce seller. But the war soon claimed him and he joined the 14th Battalion of the Frontier Force Regiment. With this he saw service in Egypt and India, reaching the rank of major.

After the war he became a fresh produce grower and packer, specialising in contracts to supply large supermarket chains. In the 1970s he bought Crowbush Farm, Toddington, Bedfordshire, concentrating on beetroot production.

His interest in Operation Dynamo stemmed from his own purchase of a Dunkirk little ship, the 40-foot wooden motor cruiser, *Elizabeth Green*, which had been one of the very first of the privately-owned craft to participate in the evacuation. In her, with his wife and two sons as crew, he joined the 25th anniversary flotilla, which assembled 43 of the original armada of little ships. Later, in Malta, he bought another Dunkirk ship, *Fedalma II*, a ketch-rigged motor-sailer, and sailed her home to England. She participated in the 50th anniversary celebrations and on that occasion Knight also had aboard a BBC radio commentator.

In 1966, with the help of the writer and broadcaster Raymond Baxter and Commander Charles Lamb, who had flown a Swordfish in the attack on the Italian fleet at Taranto, Knight set himself to discover whether more of the little ships still existed and to form an association of their owners. His original reference was the list of the participating vessels published in the book *Dunkirk* (1945) by David Divine. By scouring the official records compiled by the Admiralty, the Ministry of War Transport, harbour authorities, the RNLI, and private boatyards such as Toughs on the Thames at Teddington, Knight was able to identify many more still existing craft. As a result the association has today almost 150 member vessels throughout the world.

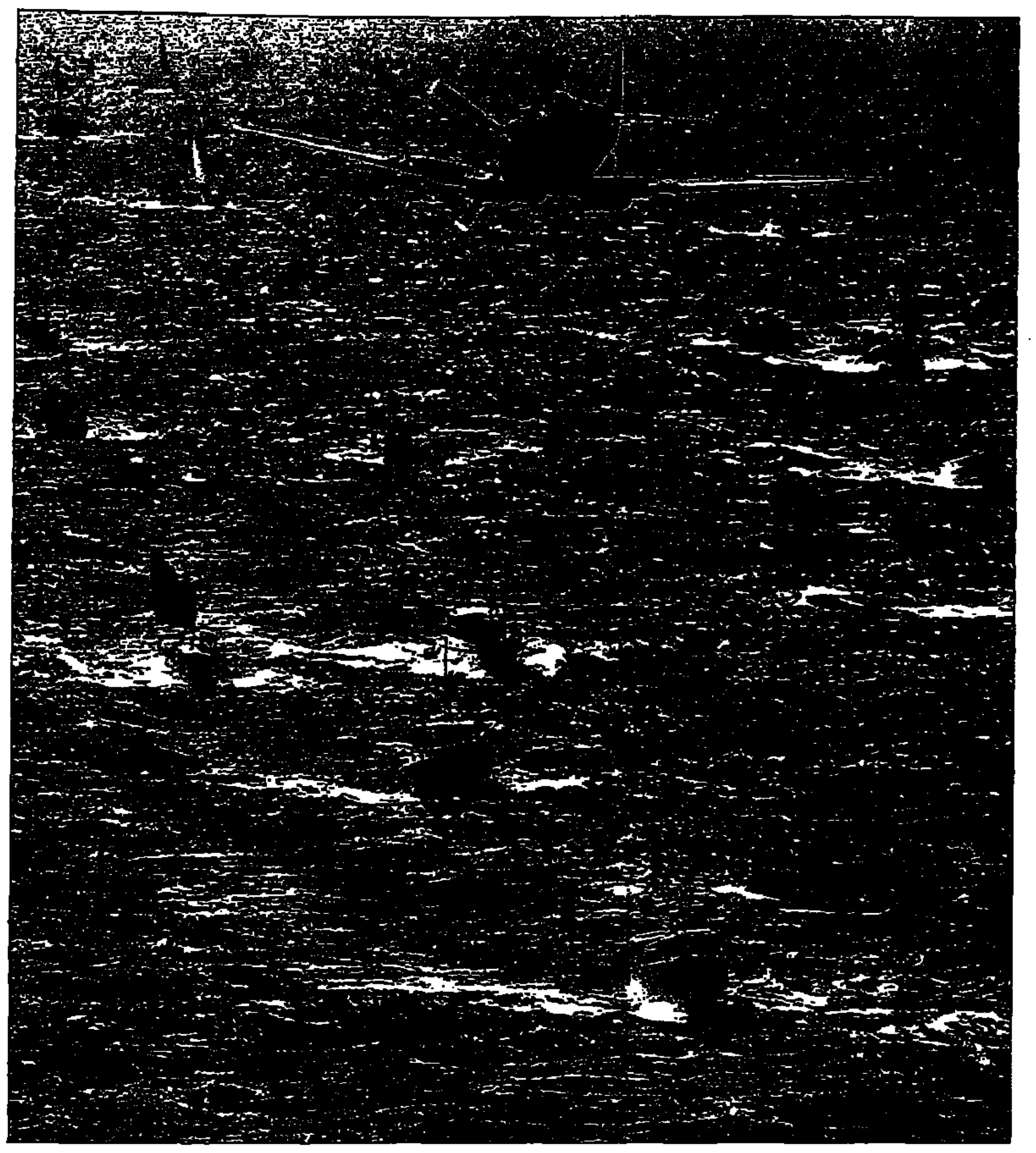
In addition Knight sought out signals and orders which had passed between the principal participants in the operation: Churchill, Admiral Ramsay, who was in charge of it, and other commanders afloat and ashore. He also unearthed handwritten notes, scribbled often under aerial bombardment, on quaysides or on the beachhead. For example, Sub-Lieutenant E. T. Garside, RNVR, who had commanded *Elizabeth Green* from the outset of Operation Dynamo, compiled an hour-by-hour account of the nine-day evacuation — which also happened to be his first nine days of active service.

All this material recaptured the anxiety and urgency of the occasion and provided the association with an incomparable archive. As the association's honorary archivist from its outset Knight was responsible for the verification of any claim to membership.

Using the material, he travelled the country giving illustrated lectures to interested groups such as the Dunkirk Veterans' Association and many yacht and boat clubs. He also placed his knowledge at the disposal of Christian Brann, whose definitive book *The Little Ships of Dunkirk* was published in 1989.

Besides being the association's founder honorary secretary, Knight was also, at various times, its treasurer, vice-commodore and commodore. A humane employer and devoted family man, he was noted among friends and colleagues for his strong sense of humour.

He is survived by his wife Wendy and by a son. Their second son predeceased him.



John Knight and the Dunkirk Little Ships crossing the Channel in *1990: a Spitfire overhead*

NOEL de MILLE

Noel de Mille, Canadian catering equipment designer and bronze medal Olympic oarsman, died on March 6 aged 85. He was born on November 11, 1909.

HAVING started work as an engineering apprentice at Boeing in Vancouver, Noel de Mille later became a designer of catering equipment and as such played a leading role in introducing, during the 1960s, the concept of what was to become known as "pub grub" in Britain.

As a Canadian living in this country before and during the Second World War, he had never understood why British public houses failed to sell any sort of hot food with drinks. He, therefore, set about developing a range of infra-red grills for pub catering.

It was a perfectly timed offering in a pub market which was trying to attract younger customers away from the coffee bars that had reigned supreme in the 1950s. Equipped with de Mille's grills, even the smallest premises were able to offer hot snack food.

By 1966 there were many imitations of the de Mille infra-red grills and the impact of his innovative effort was recognised by the Cookery and Food Association which elected him an honorary fellow.

Noel de Mille's outstanding inventiveness and ingenuity in design solutions had been recognised by Boeing at an early stage. The company moved him into the design and drawing office where he acquired the engineering design skills on which his subsequent career was based.

A keen oarsman, he won many competitions and championships. The most well-known of these was the Pacific Coast Championship in single sculls, which he won three years running. He joined the Canadian Olympic team at Los Angeles in 1932, taking a bronze medal in double sculls with his rowing partner Ned Pratt.

The Depression of the early 1930s led to the closure of the Boeing plant in Vancouver and de Mille spent three years first as a lumberjack, and subsequently working in goldmines, in one of which he rose to become chief assayer. But his real ambition was to return to the aircraft industry. He was able to do so when he was invited to England by his former boss at Boeing to join in the design and production of flying boats at Saunders Roe in the Isle of Wight.

During the Second World War de Mille's engineering production management skills were utilised first in aircraft wing section manufacture and subsequently as works manager of a factory fabricating Bailey bridge pontoons.

De Mille was always designing or inventing better ways of doing everyday things. In 1949 he established his own company to manufacture potato-peeling machines for domestic and catering use. Over half a million "de Mille Merrygo" potato-peelers were sold in the early 1950s.

Noel de Mille married Ailsa Ogilvie in 1939. She supported him in his business life and developed great skill in marketing the machines he created.

In retirement, de Mille pursued many varied interests — he became a proficient watercolour painter, he enjoyed sailing and he fully participated in village life.

He is survived by his wife and two sons.

THELMA HOLLAND

Thelma Holland, daughter-in-law of Oscar Wilde and beautician to the Queen, died on March 1 aged 84. She was born on June 19, 1910.

THELMA HOLLAND married the younger of Oscar Wilde's two sons, the writer Vyvyan Holland, a man who, when Thelma first met him, was still traumatised by the distressing publicity surrounding his father's last years. The fact that his name was changed to Holland as a boy — an old family name on his mother's side — was indicative of the sort of drastic steps taken to protect him from his father's reputation. His wife, a bright, vivacious Australian, brought him through the habits of "concealment and repression" to a new acceptance of his unhappy family history.

Indeed she made the respectful recognition of Wilde something of a personal crusade for nearly half a century, and in some ways she may have been overprotective of her father-in-law's reputation. Her own husband when writing about his father never once mentioned Wilde's homosexuality, and it was an example Thelma followed in conversation, always seeking to separate Wilde's life from his work. She found it difficult to accept the more integrated approach of modern biography.

She was similiary discreet in her own professional life as a beautician to the Queen, whom she accompanied on several royal tours. She managed the Cyclax beauty salon in London's South Molton Street, working for the company for nearly twenty years through the 1940s and 1950s, and arriving for work every morning immaculately turned out in one of her mink hats.

She was born Dorothy Thelma Helen Besant in Melbourne, the most English of Australian cities. She was distantly related to Annie Besant, the feminist and theosophist, and was brought up as a strict Methodist. She was, however, a high-spirited girl and to her family's horror she decided to become an actress. But stage life proved financially precarious and her first permanent job was in a bookshop.

She came to England via South Africa in 1940, and set to work developing for Cyclax a stocking cream — a foundation for the legs which made the wearer appear to be in stockings. It was at a London party that she met Vyvyan Holland who was then working for the BBC.

Though he belonged to various London clubs and was part of a literary set which included Evelyn Waugh, Holland was an introverted, modest man, and he was instantly attracted to this sparkling young woman. They were married in 1943 and, as with most parties thrown by Thelma, the event gained a momentum of its own, so that what was planned as a modest register office affair ended as a ceremony at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, attended by several hundred guests. They lived in Chelsea — Sloane Street for the first twenty years, and then in The Boltons.

Thelma encouraged her husband to write two books about his father, *Son of Oscar Wilde* (1954) and *Oscar Wilde: A Pictorial Biography* (1961), which gave touching accounts of the writer seated on the nursery floor, smelling of "cigarette smoke and eau-de-cologne".

It was during the war that she began her association with the Royal Family. After seeing a photograph of the young Princess Elizabeth in her ATS uniform, she wrote to the then Queen Elizabeth to suggest that her daughter was old enough to be initiated into the art of cosmetics. The Queen agreed, and thus began a long relationship which was at first marked by a little professional frustration on Thelma's side: "The Princess has no vanity," she concluded when her pupil refused to wear the recommended Cyclax products every day.

Thelma guided the young Princess through many years of public appearances until she left Cyclax in 1957. Afterwards she worked for the Slenderella group of beauty salons and for the cosmetics company Germaine Monteil.

In her last years she was afflicted by an isolating deafness. She was, however, immensely pleased to visit the memorial window erected in Oscar Wilde's honour at Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey, only two weeks before her death. Her husband died in 1967, and she is survived by their son, Merlin.

ASHTON GRAYBIEL

Ashton Graybiel, physician, died in Pensacola, Florida, on January 27 aged 92. He was born in Port Huron, Michigan, on July 24, 1902.

ASTRONAUTS who rode the Apollo missions to the Moon had cause to be grateful to Ashton Graybiel. He was a pioneering physician in the sphere of space flight and but for his development of drug combinations which prevented — or at least alleviated — the nauseous symptoms of motion sickness in space, Apollo astronauts and their Space Shuttle successors would have had much less comfortable trips.

Graybiel began his contributions to the American space programme in the late 1950s, when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) asked him to study the effects of weightlessness on the human body. He helped to design and conduct parabolic flight experiments to create short periods of weightlessness — using an aircraft which became less than affectionately known to its passengers as "the vomit comet."

The results of these studies, which continued through the Apollo and Skylab programmes, convinced him that something had to be done to make it possible for humans to live and function in space without losing their breakfasts.

Educated at the University of Southern California and Harvard Medical School, Ashton Graybiel had been a noted cardiologist prior to his work for Nasa. His book *Electrocardiography in Practice*, written in association with Paul Dudley White, was a standard textbook for more than two decades after its publication in the early 1940s. He also helped to develop a technique for conducting heart operations on human fetuses, laying the foundations for repairing certain congenital heart defects.

From 1936 to 1943 Graybiel worked at Harvard University's fatigue laboratory, developing methods for measuring cardiovascular performance and establishing studies of the medical and physical characteristics of airline pilots. His expertise in this field led him to move to Pensacola during the Second World War, where he joined the precursor of the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute, studying the effects of fatigue on military pilots. He became director of the institute in 1945.

Graybiel's experiments in the 1970s concentrated on the effects of acceleration on the organs of equilibrium in the inner ear, the circulatory system and muscle control. They helped Nasa to design spacesuits and to determine how fast a rocket could accelerate without harming an astronaut.

Continuing to work almost to the end of his life, Graybiel published his last book, concerning the treatment of space motion sickness, in 1994. He was the recipient of numerous awards, including Nasa's highest honour, the Distinguished Service Award.

Ashton Graybiel is survived by one son and one daughter.

ON THIS DAY

March 11 1863

The beauty, charm and unpretentious nature of Princess Alexandra captivated all who came into contact with her. The Queen, clad in deep mourning (as she was for the next 40 years) for Prince Albert (d. 1861), observed the ceremony in seclusion from a balcony, and was absent from the wedding luncheon.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRINCESS ALEXANDRA OF DENMARK

Yesterday the marriage ceremony in which the English nation feels so deep an interest was performed with fitting pomp and solemnity at Windsor. The fair Princess who landed on Saturday morning a stranger to the people, their habits and modes of thought, is now a member of our State, the partner for life of the Heir Apparent to the Throne, and, if the favourable omens under which that union was contracted be verified in the event, is destined to play a not unimportant part in the history of the Royal House of England . . .

From the moment of its first promulgation the proposed alliance with Denmark was decidedly popular, and the feeling in its favour was gaining day by day, till the culminating point was reached at sight of the fair face which has left home and kindred to become the adopted daughter of England. Among the Orders of Danish knighthood there is one the ranks of which are open equally to male and female knights, and its name seems singularly applicable to the event which has taken place. Let us hope that in the happiness the Prince and Princess of Wales may mutually derive, the advantages they will each obtain from the counsels and sympathy of the other, above all, in the results of their marriage, as these will affect the nation at large, the English people may feel justified in applying to their union the title of that Danish Order—"*La Parfaite Alliance.*" . . .

Such an occasion is one in which few men appear to advantage; yet the Prince gains by passing through it. With the easy grace that seems natural to all his actions he stood alone, the watched and observed of all the observers, neither bashful nor confident, but with a manly Royal bearing that became his illustrious birth and exalted station. He looked round upon the splendid scene for a moment quietly and easily; and his every movement, his look, his very bearing, seemed in their vivid likeness to his Royal father to impress and amaze all—even those who by their rank and station might be supposed to be the most familiar with his featurees. As the sound of cheering was heard without, marking the coming of his youthful Bride, he kept turning his head every moment, for from where he stood, in the centre of the altar, he could see through the screen and down the Nave beyond to where the crimson curtains would hide the marshalling of the Bride's procession. Often and often did he glance this way, but the curtains were motionless, and gave no sign of the coming forth of her whom all now watched for with such eager expectation that the suspense even of the slight delay seemed almost painful . . .

The hush was now so deep and breathless that even the restless glitter of the jewels that twinkled everywhere seemed almost to break it, and, despite the stately etiquette which had hitherto regulated every word and gesture, all now bent far and eagerly forward as the hum and rustle in the Nave beyond showed the young Bride to be drawing near. In another minute she had entered, and stood the fairest and almost the youngest of all her lovely train that bloomed in fair array behind her. Though not agitated, she appeared nervous, and the soft, delicate bloom of colour which ordinarily imparts a look of joyous happiness to her expressive features, had all but disappeared as, with head bent down, but glancing her eyes occasionally from side to side, she moved slowly up towards the altar . . .

PERSONAL COLUMN

COMPANY NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NO.00722 OF 1995
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
HITACHI CONSUMER PRODUCTS (UK) LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985

Notice is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1st March 1995 confirming the reduction of Share Capital of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 7th March 1995.
Dated this 8th day of March 1995.
EVERSHEDS PHILLIPS & BUCK
Fitzalan House, Fitzalan Road,
Cardiff, CF2 1XZ Ref: 1/AW/Y1C
Solicitors for the above-named company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BOWDEN, JOHN. 6 BELMONT CLOSE, CLAPHAM MANOR STREET, LONDON SW4 DIED 17 JANUARY 1995: PARTICULARS TO PIPER SMITH & BASHAM (Ref: B232.2.MS.690). SOLICITORS. 31 WARWICK SQUARE LONDON SW1V 2AF BEFORE 20 MAY 1995.

DAVIS, VERA DORIS of 104 LADY MARGARET ROAD, ISLINGTON, LONDON N19 died of 3RD SEPTEMBER 1990 particulars to MAPLES TEESDALE Solicitors of 21 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON WC2A 3DU before 12TH MAY 1995

MAGGOTT, WILLIAM GORDON. 102 GLASTONBURY HOUSE, ABBOTTS MANOR, WARWICK WAY, LONDON SW1. DIED 27th JUNE 1994: PARTICULARS TO PIPER SMITH & BASHAM (Ref: M217.2.MS.690). SOLICITORS. 31 WARWICK SQUARE LONDON SW1V 2AF BEFORE 20th MAY 1995.

TRUSTEE ACTS

WOLFRYD, ISRAEL (known as EDWARD) of EDENROC 2H PARK WAY, FRIERN BARNET LANE, LONDON N20 0XP died on 3RD FEBRUARY 1995 particulars to SEDDONS Solicitors of 5 PORTMAN SQUARE, LONDON W1H 9PS before 12th MAY 1995.

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Court denies leukaemia girl treatment

■ A girl aged ten was denied treatment to combat leukaemia after the Court of Appeal overturned a decision that a health authority should give her a last chance for life.

The child's father was escorted, distressed, from the court. Michael Sinclair, his solicitor, said he was considering offers from newspapers to pay for the treatment... Pages 1, 2, 3, 16, 17

Blair wins Clause 4 battle in Scotland

■ Tony Blair cleared the final hurdle in his attempt to modernise Labour's constitution with a resounding victory at the Scottish party conference over his plans to ditch Clause Four. Delegates voted by 58.3 per cent to 41.6 per cent to support the Labour leader .... Pages 1 and 8

Takeover fails

Thousands of private shareholders lost out on windfall gains when the takeover bid for Northern Electric, the electricity distributor, collapsed .... Page 1

Vatican envoy

Britain's first woman Ambassador to the Holy See is a committed Protestant churchgoer who supports women priests .... Page 7

Petrol station killing

A petrol pump attendant who was shot dead for £100 by two robbers had changed his shift at the last minute to help a friend.... Page 10

Inventor's success

A device developed by a former Royal Marine to ease back pain has won the invention of the year award .... Page 9

Choir sex bias claim

A girl is to sue Winchester Cathedral for sexual discrimination after being refused the chance to join its all-male choir .... Page 6

Warning to Clinton

A Northern Ireland minister said that President Clinton would have to live with the consequences of allowing Gerry Adams to raise funds in the US .... Page 5

Trawler seized

The European Union has condemned Canada after its patrol boats seized a Spanish trawler in international waters .... Page 15

Hunt abandoned

Tanzanian authorities have abandoned attempts to arrest a Belgian wanted for murder .... Page 13

Dam delay

Portugal has been accused of delaying tactics in deciding the future of a dam which threatens palaeolithic rock art .... Page 14

Marriage on rocks

A study shows that the French are less likely to get married than any other European nation except the Swedes .... Page 12

Poachers and bailiffs battle over eels

■ The annual battle between poachers and bailiffs along the eel-rich rivers of the West Country is approaching its climax as shoals of elvers make their spring-tide run up the Bristol Channel. Dealers pay up to £20 a lb for live fish .... Page 9

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, with the Queen and Major Andrew Parker- Bowles, talks to Major Oliver Ellwood after he won the Grand Military Cup on Country Member at Sandown yesterday. Racing, pages 34, 35

OPINION

Care in the courts: The regular countermanding of clinical decisions by the courts would undermine both the integrity and the rationality of responsible health care .... Page 17

Dam folly: The primordial engravings of the Coa Valley are not the heritage of Portugal alone .... Page 17

A new Bolshoi: With the resignation of the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre, one of the last bastions of Stalinism in the arts has finally been breached Page 17

LETTERS

Labour's plan for a commission to discipline judges: the rights of homosexuals; charging for mountain rescues .... Page 17

COLUMNS

Tim Bell: A black cloud is hanging over the business world. It is the prevailing view of corporate profits and "corporate greed"..... Page 16

Henry Chadwick: Symbols are important. The Cross has a history as long as that of the Christian society itself, and for good reason.......... Page 16

THE PAPERS

Many dieters complain that pounds that were gone by Tuesday have return by Sunday. According to researchers the body is bent on getting back to pre-diet weight

— *The New York Times*

It will be very hard to put the leaders of Serbia and the Bosnian Serbs in the dock, but it is essential to try

— *The Washington Post*

BUSINESS

Barings: The chairman of ING said he believes Nick Leeson will return to Britain for trial .... Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 34.2 points to close at 3021.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 85.9 to 85.1 after a fall from $1.6185 to $1.5820 and DM2.2481 to DM2.2373 .... Page 24

MONEY GUIDE

A 16-page personal finance and tax review

OBITUARIES

John Knight, founder of Association of Dunkirk Little Ships; **Noel de Mille**, catering equipment designer; **Thelma Holland**, beautician; **Ashton Graybiel**, space flight physician .... Page 19

SPORT

Ice skating: Nicole Bobek won the original programme section to go into the lead in the women's event at the world championships in Birmingham .... Page 44

Cricket: Phil Neale has moved from Northamptonshire to become director of coaching with Warwickshire. Neale will be able to continue as England A team manager .... Page 39

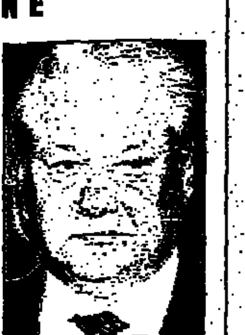
Football: Ian Rush has the opportunity to break Denis Law's post-war record of 41 FA Cup goals when Liverpool play Tottenham in the sixth round .... Page 36

CAR 95

Where there's junk: Rich pickings for collectors in old garages and barns

SATURDAY TIMES

MAGAZINE



Boris Yeltsin: Anne McElvoy on the unmaking of the President; Richard Beeston on the rise to power of his bodyguard .... Page 8

Man and women: Without this fruitful obsession with the opposite sex, Man Ray might not have become an artist at all, says Richard Cork .... Page 18

Jimmy McGovern: The Liverpudlian writer of *Hearts and Minds, Cracker* and *Brookside* talks to Robert Crampton .... Page 28

Fashion: Pink, perky and perfect for now — 40 pages of fashion to see you through the summer.... Page 37

Food and drink: Eating out in Nomansland; a culinary tour of Brussels; New Zealand wines ... Page 83

WEEKEND

Dogs in hotels: "Perhaps one day we will see a Michelin-style guide that musters a corps of trained undercover investigators and their pets to test facilities" .... Page 1

Long-distance gardening: Graham Rose tells why he has 13 gardeners to tend his small patch 800 miles from home .... Page 8

Bazaar, bizarre: From mosques to masseuses, palaces to perfumes, Heather Kirby discovers the treasures of Istanbul..... Page 16

Stuffy nonsense: "The classical-music business has spent too long listening to advisers who tell it to loosen up its 'starchy' image" .... Page 5

Street wise: Four prostitutes form an alliance in the drama *Band of Gold* .... Page 6

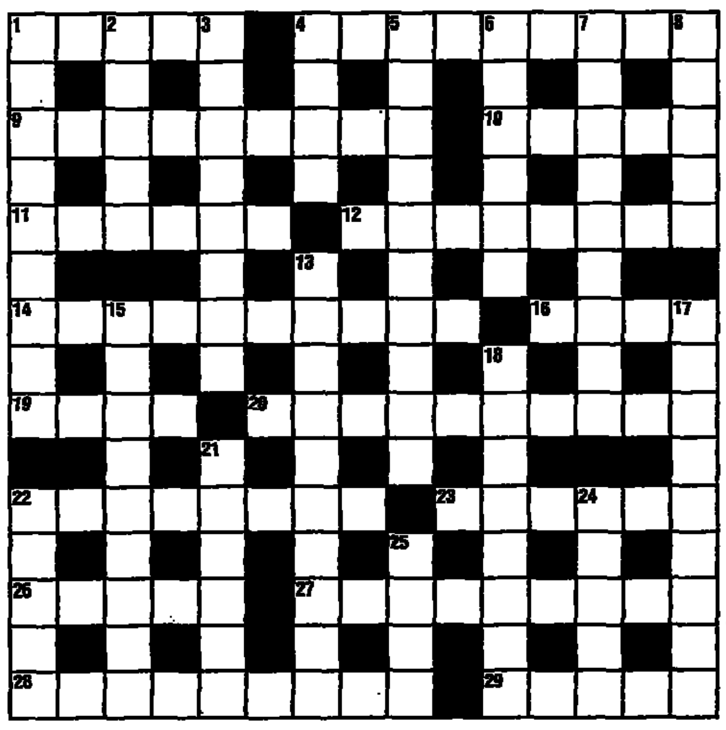
Wild cat chase: Does the Beast of Exmoor exist or is it a West Country myth? Page 3

The White Room: Gimmick-free, live pop .... Page 5

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,800

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....



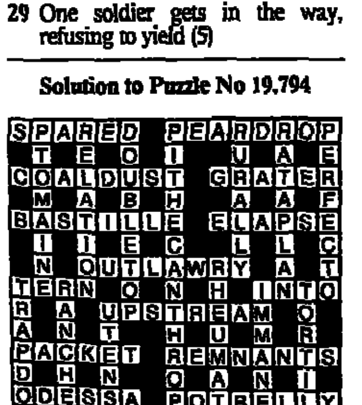
ACROSS

1 Washington, for example — or New York, say (5)
4 Part of Oslo west of the port (9)
9 Hero, for example, is curious to Hardy's heroine (9)
10 Audience's dislike for music-hall (5)
11 Begin again to give a brief account (6)
12 Turn on illuminations, we hear, in this seaside resort (8)
14 Refusal from Noel Coward is appalling another author (5,5)
16 CD is replacement for it (4)
19 Dangerous for Doolittle? That's immaterial (4)
20 Uncle's hock taken by brother without permission (10)
22 Revulsion as little girl's getting smack (8)
23 Almost spear a small antelope (6)
26 Lord Chancellor's manners (5)
27 Political action evident in short law I amended (4,5)
28 Island's original coin (3,6)
29 One soldier gets in the way, refusing to yield (5)

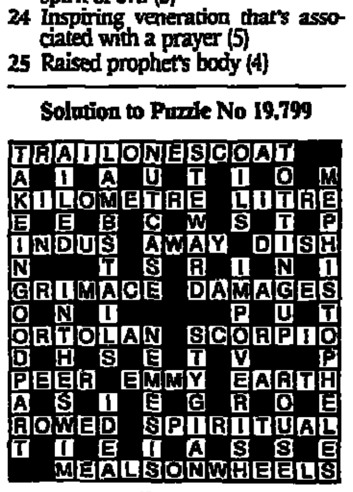
DOWN

1 First-class county's rising star (9)
2 It wouldn't affect Rose's perfume (5)
3 Get midshipman to notice gull (4,4)
4 Tried to deceive a number of the Germans? (4)
5 Partners walking regularly in northern area no longer (4,6)
6 Shed in town? Doesn't sound like it (6)
7 Addition to players' contract producing obvious strain (9)
8 Athenian name to drop, if upwardly mobile (5)
13 One constituent is breaking taboo, supported by both sides (10)
15 Sailors from Irish port needed to get to the wine (9)
17 Did dog after dog get trimmed? (9)
18 More timely reminder for players (8)
21 Saunas semi-reconstructed in resort (6)
22 Political protest leading to new spirit of evil (5)
24 Inspiring veneration that's associated with a prayer (5)
25 Raised prophet's body (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,794



Solution to Puzzle No 19,799



LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *K Hedley, Newcastle-u-Lyme, Staffs; J S Grainge, Glasgow; J P Evans, Aberystwyth; C Dowsett, Oxford; J Boddy, Newbury, Berks.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 6.25 am
Sun sets: 5.58 pm
Moon sets 3.04 am
Moon rises 12.06 pm

Full Moon March 17

London 5.58 pm to 6.23 am
Bristol 6.07 pm to 6.32 am
Edinburgh 6.07 pm to 6.38 am
Manchester 6.05 pm to 6.32 am
Penzance 6.20 pm to 6.44 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.23 am
Sun sets: 5.59 pm
Moon sets 3.41 am
Moon rises 1.07 pm

Full Moon March 17

London 5.59 pm to 6.21 am
Bristol 6.09 pm to 6.30 am
Edinburgh 6.09 pm to 6.35 am
Manchester 6.07 pm to 6.30 am
Penzance 6.21 pm to 6.41 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.59	5.39	8.30	5.46
Aberdeen	8.41	3.37	9.47	3.36
Avonmouth	0.43	9.58	1.58	9.22
Belfast	6.09	2.96	6.54	2.79
Cardiff	0.47	9.14	1.42	8.82
Devonport	-	-	0.21	4.05
Dover	6.04	4.92	6.57	5.02
Dublin	7.21	3.26	7.54	3.22
Falmouth	0.00	3.94	0.35	3.71
Glasgow	7.03	3.80	7.40	3.45
Harwich	6.16	2.98	7.00	2.82
Holyhead	5.37	4.20	6.26	4.18
Hull	0.55	5.44	1.36	5.56
Ilfracombe	0.10	6.33	1.12	6.25
King's Lynn	1.47	4.51	2.22	4.53
Leith	10.01	4.18	10.45	4.20
Liverpool	6.10	6.86	7.00	6.63
Lowestoft	4.53	2.05	5.16	2.09
Margate	6.51	3.66	7.26	3.71
Milford Haven	0.30	4.91	1.34	4.81
Newquay	0.08	4.72	0.51	4.68
Oban	0.00	2.76	2.30	2.80
Penzance	-	-	0.09	3.95
Portland	-	-	0.22	1.15
Portsmouth	5.46	3.67	6.52	3.68
Shoreham	6.06	4.47	6.51	4.60
Southampton	5.28	3.58	6.32	3.62
Swansea	0.42	6.82	1.46	6.76
Tees	10.57	4.00	11.36	3.99
W'ton-on-Nze	6.12	3.04	6.45	3.11

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Scilly Isles, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.25in; highest sunshine: Clacton, Essex, and Folkestone, Kent, 9.7hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales mostly dry at first but rain in western counties will move east, clearing southeast England after midnight. Brighter weather will follow, with isolated showers in the west. It should be another mild day.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny spells and showers after the clearance of rain over eastern Scotland. Some showers may be heavy and wintry over high ground. Winds will gradually ease and temperatures should be a little above the March average.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Channel Isles:** mostly dry, perhaps the occasional shower. Rain later. Wind light to moderate southerly, turning northwesterly. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N, NE England:** isolated showers merging into rain. Brighter and drier later. Wind light southerly, turning northwesterly. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** rain at first then sunny spells and showers, becoming dry later. Wind moderate northwesterly. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** sunny spells and showers, heavy at times and wintry on hills. Wind fresh westerly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Orkney, Shetland:** rain clearing, then isolated showers for a time. Wind strong to gale force southeasterly, moderating and turning westerly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Outlook:** dry with sunny spells in the South, rain at times in the North.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

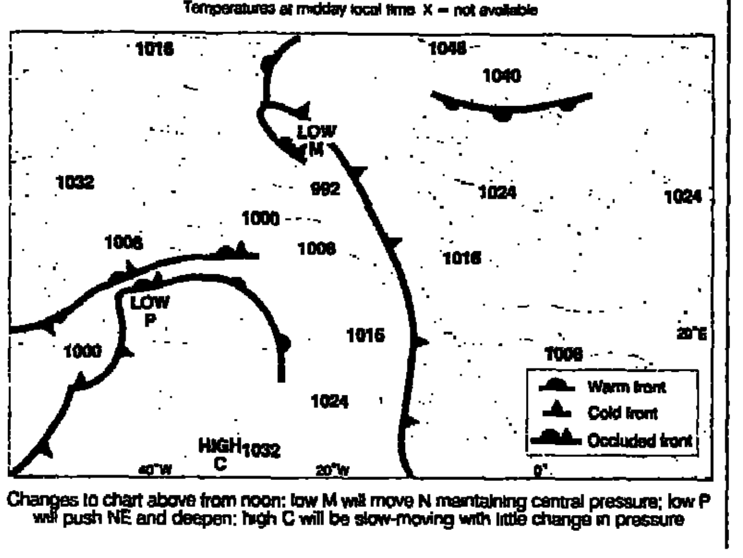
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	8.8	-	8	46	s	Littlehmptn	5.2	-	10	50	b
Anglesey	1.6	-	8	46	c	Liverpool	4.6	0.03	8	46	r
Aspatria	6.0	0.03	9	48	b	London	6.4	-	10	50	s
Aviemore	7.6	0.04	7	45	s	Lowestoft	8.0	-	9	48	s
Belfast	0.7	0.03	7	45	r	Manchester	5.3	-	9	48	s
Birmingham	3.8	0.01	8	46	r	Margate	7.9	-	10	50	s
Bognor R	6.5	-	10	50	s	Minehead	0.1	0.01	9	48	c
Bournem'th	0.7	-	9	48	c	Morecambe	3.8	-	9	48	c
Bristol	2.2	-	9	48	c	Newcastle	7.7	-	9	48	s
Buxton	6.2	0.02	6	43	b	Newquay	X				
Cardiff	0.4	0.02	8	46	c	Norwich	8.4	0.01	9	48	s
Clacton	9.7	0.03	9	48	s	Nottingham	X				
Colwyn Bay	2.1	-	9	48	c	Oxford	4.3	0.01	8	46	s
Cromer	8.2	-	9	48	s	Penzance	0.3	0.06	11	52	sh
Doncaster	7.4	-	8	46	s	Plymouth	0.3	0.04	10	50	r
Eastbourne	7.3	0.01	9	48	s	Poole	0.9	-	10	50	c
Edinburgh	7.5	0.01	8	46	s	Prestatyn	X	-	9	48	b
Eskdalemuir	3.0	-	6	43	b	Ross-o-wye	3.5	-	9	48	d
Exmouth	0.2	0.03	9	48	c	Ryde	X				
Falmouth	X	-	9	48	c	Salcombe	0.8	-	11	52	c
Fishguard	0.1	0.01	7	45	r	Saunton Snd	0.5	0.07	10	50	c
Folkestone	9.7	0.03	9	48	s	Scarboro'	8.1	-	8	46	s
Glasgow	3.8	0.01	8	46	b	Scilly Isles	0.3	0.02	11	52	g
Guernsey	4.5	0.14	10	50	s	Shrewsbury	1.6	-	8	46	r
Hastings	6.9	-	9	48	s	Skegness	8.7	0.01	8	46	s
Hayling I.	4.2	-	9	48	c	Southend	8.6	0.01	9	48	s
Herne Bay	8.1	-	9	48	s	Stornoway	4.0	0.01	7	45	s
Hove	6.8	-	9	48	s	Swanage	1.1	0.02	10	50	sh
Hunstanton	8.0	-	9	48	s	Teignmouth	0.1	0.02	10	50	c
Ilfracombe	X					Tenby	0.3	0.01	9	48	c
Isle of Man	1.2	0.04	9	48	r	Tiree	3.2	-	7	45	c
Jersey	2.9	0.01	11	52	c	Torquay	0.3	0.02	10	50	c
Kinloss	7.8	0.08	9	48	s	Tynemouth	8.3	-	9	48	s
Leeds	7.5	0.01	10	50	s	Ventnor	4.2	-	11	52	b
Lerwick	5.6	0.25	6	43	h	Weymouth	1.8	0.02	10	50	c
Leuchars	7.6	-	9	48	s						

These are Thursday's figures

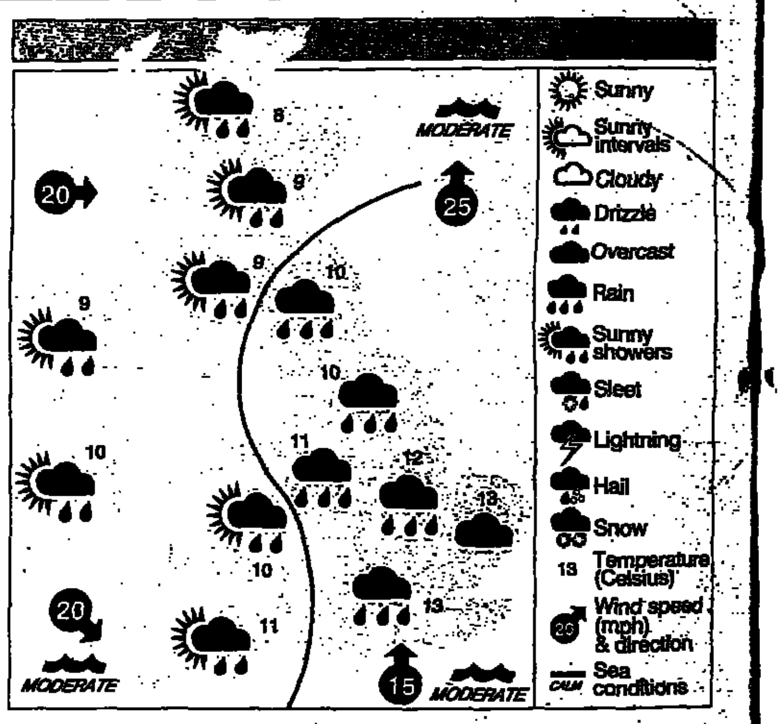
ABROAD

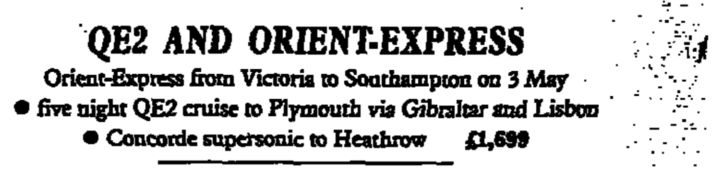
Ajaccio	15	59	s	C'phagn	7	45	s	Majorca	18	64	f	Rome	13	55	f
Akrotiri	17	63	s	Corfu	13	55	c	Malaga	16	61	f	Salzburg	10	50	s
Alex'dria	19	66	s	Dublin	10	50	d	Malta	17	63	s	S Frisco	16	61	r
Algiers	21	70	f	Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Melb'rne	19	66	c	Santiago	29	84	s
Amst'dm	9	48	s	Faro	14	57	r	Mexico C	16	61	s	S Paulo	29	84	c
Athens	16	61	s	Florence	-	--		Miami	21	70	c	Seoul	4	39	c
Bahrain	25	77	s	Frankfurt	10	50	s	Milan	12	54	f	Sing'por	31	88	f
Bangkok	-	--		Funchal	14	57	c	Montreal	-8	18	sn	St'kholm	5	41	s
Barbados	-	--		Geneva	7	45	s	Moscow	3	37	c	Strasb'rg	9	48	s
Barcelona	14	57	c	Gibraltar	15	59	c	Munich	8	46	s	Sydney	22	72	c
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	1	34	c	Nairobi	25	77	c	Tangier	18	64	c
Belgrade	12	54	f	Hong K	22	72	s	N Delhi	23	73	s	Tel Aviv	18	64	f
Berlin	9	48	f	Innsbrck	7	45	s	N York	0	32	s	Tenerife	17	63	c
Bermuda	24	75	s	Istanbul	13	55	f	Nice	13	55	s	Tokyo	5	41	r
Biarritz	19	66	s	Jeddah	29	84	s	Oslo	3	37	s	Toronto	-8	18	s
Borde'x	15	59	s	Jo'burg	25	77	f	Paris	12	54	s	Tunis	19	66	s
Brussels	11	52	s	L Palmas	19	66	c	Peking	14	57	s	Valencia	12	54	c
Budapst	11	52	s	Le Touqt	11	52	s	Perth	28	82	s	Vanc'ver	9	48	r
B Aires	-	--		Lisbon	14	57	f	Prague	6	43	f	Venice	12	54	c
Cairo	23	73	f	Locarno	9	48	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	s	Vienna	9	48	s
Cape Tn	33	91	s	L Angels	19	66	c	Rhodes	-	--		Warsaw	9	48	s
Chicago	-1	30	s	Luxembg	9	48	s	Rio de J	36	97	f	Wash'ton	1	34	s
Ch'church	-	--		Luxor	30	86	s	Rio de J	29	84	f	Wel'ngton	-	--	
Cologne	10	50	s	Madrid	10	50	r	Riyadh	28	82	f	Zurich	7	45	s

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available



Changes to chart above from noon: low M will move N maintaining central pressure; low P will push NE and deepen; high C will be slow-moving with little change in pressure





QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 3 May
● five night QE2 cruise to Plymouth via Gibraltar and Lisbon
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,699

Concorde supersonic to Lisbon on 6 May ● four night VE Day cruise on QE2 to Southampton via Plymouth and Guernsey ● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,699

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 16 July
● eight night Land of the Midnight Sun cruise on QE2 to Stavanger via North Cape and the Norwegian Fjords
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £2,499

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 26 July
● five night QE2 cruise to New York ● nine night coach tour to Boston, Montreal, Ottawa and Niagara
● Concorde supersonic return from Toronto £2,999

TORONTO WITH NIAGARA

BA 747 from Heathrow to Toronto on 27 May or 3 Sept.
● five nights at the deluxe Sheraton ● harbour cruise
● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of the Opera
● Concorde supersonic return to Heathrow £1,999

Toronto with Ryder Cup on 20 Sept. £2,699

ORIANA AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Concorde from Heathrow to Nice on 2 July
● six night Oriana cruise from Cannes to *Southampton via Tarragona and Lisbon*
● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,999

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 8 July
● six night Oriana cruise to St. Petersburg via Oslo and Copenhagen ● *Concorde return to Heathrow* £1,999

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PROFILE 23

Partners in Power at Media Ventures International

POWER STRUGGLE 23

Electricity firms can expect another Trafalgar battle

SPORT 34-40

Bonaly glides on in search for perfection on ice

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
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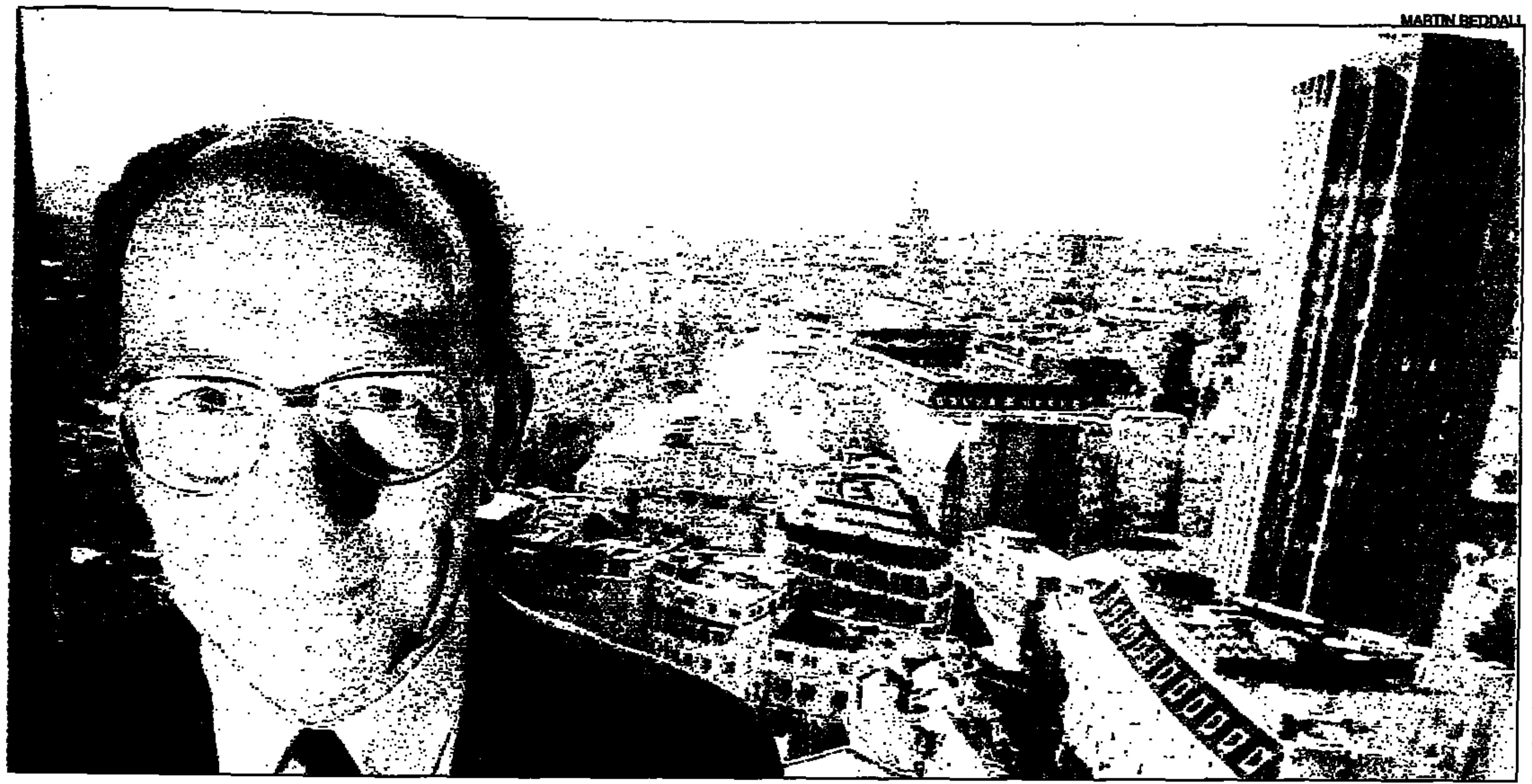
THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY MARCH 11 1995



MARTIN BEDDALL

In control: Aad Jacobs, chairman of International Nederlanden Groep, in his office on the 19th floor of Barings's tower in the City yesterday

Trafalgar assault on Northern collapses

By Martin Waller
Deputy City Editor

THE £1.23 billion hostile assault by Trafalgar House, the construction to shipping combine, on Northern Electric collapsed last night after a day of dramatic twists and turns.

The bid lapsed after Trafalgar's cash offer of £11 a share, which closed at lunchtime, attracted support from 71.5 per cent of Northern's shareholders, with the count continuing. But Trafalgar conceded the eventual total would be less than 82 per cent and therefore below the 90 per cent minimum the bidder had set itself.

Trafalgar had at this stage in the day already indicated a wish to reduce the bid to 950p a share because of the dramatic slump in the value of electricity shares since the bombshell delivered by Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, on Tuesday.

However, under City takeover rules, such a cut in the terms on offer would require the agreement of the Northern board that a lower offer should be put to its shareholders. That consent was firmly withheld by Northern last night, making the failure of the bid inevitable. Trafalgar, which immediately attacked its opponent's stance, can now only rely on the unlikely event of a shareholder revolt that requires the Northern directors to change their minds.

The probable outcome to a bitterly contested bid, although it was not known when the market closed, was being reflected throughout the day's trading in Northern shares. They opened at 818p, rose to a high of 860p as the market in the general confusion started to suspect Trafalgar might succeed at 950p, and then collapsed again to end 10p lower than the previous close at 808p.

Trafalgar had earlier spoken to the City's Takeover Panel about the possibility of effectively reducing its bid by making a new one once the original offer lapsed. Northern's shares have slumped this week from 1055p on Monday evening, before Professor Littlechild's announcement that he was considering redrawing the complex regulatory regime that governs the 12 regional electricity companies (Recs) in England and Wales from April 1996. This makes it almost impossible to place a firm stock market value on the 12, because their profits are so closely tied to the regulator. This uncertainty, on one analysis, could stretch to Christmas if one or more of the 12 chooses to put Professor Littlechild's eventual decision this summer to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Under the City's Takeover Code, a bid cannot be renewed once it lapses for at least 12 months. But this ruling can be laid aside in limited circumstances, one of which is if the target company so wishes.

Trafalgar was pushing Northern throughout the day to do just that. Rodney Leach, a director, said: "We hope they will allow a bid to go forward and we hope they will recommend it." He made it clear that appropriate financing to support a new bid was in place, requiring "similar borrowing requirements" to those disclosed in the first offer.

But Northern took the view that the uncertainties were such that it could not decide whether or not 950p was a fair price, and therefore whether this new offer should go ahead.

David Morris, the chairman, said: "Trafalgar House's unacceptable proposal for a lower bid appears to be little more than a crude attempt to take advantage of the current uncertainties affecting the Rec sector. This bid has gone on long enough."

War nobody won, page 23
Tempus, page 24

ING chief expects Leeson to return

By Robert Miller
in London and
Neil Bennett
in Singapore

AAD JACOBS, chairman of International Nederlanden Groep (ING), the new Dutch owner of Barings, said yesterday he believes Nick Leeson, the trader blamed for the collapse of the bank with debts of £800 million, will return to the UK to face trial. He also thinks Mr Leeson was "not the only one involved".

"Privately, I think he will be brought back to this country rather than Singapore. Then he will come to court and I shall listen," Mr Jacobs said.

Mr Leeson is currently being held in custody in Frankfurt while the Singapore authorities seek his extradition. In the UK, officers from the Serious Fraud Office are investigating grounds for his extradition.

Mr Jacobs added that he would not be rushed into sacking staff who might have been involved in the downfall of Britain's oldest merchant bank before the Bank of England has completed its report into the crash.

Nor would the generous bonuses and staff salaries for Barings's staff be cut, even though Mr Jacobs said a number of them earn more than he does as ING chairman.

Asked whether Peter Baring, the chairman of Barings at the time of the crash should be allowed to resign as a matter of honour, he said: "Again I will wait for the Bank report. If it finds he has done something wrong we will take appropriate action, but I hope it does not."

Officials close to the Bank of England's investigation said that Treasury staff in Barings' London head office wrote a memo in mid-February expressing concern about the hundreds of millions of pounds they were continually sending to Singapore.

WEEKEND
MONEY

27
Anne Ashworth on the Halifax Leeds share giveaway

INVESTMENT

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The church bequest and how to invest it

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Privatisation stocks after the electricity shock

PENSIONS

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The pension perils of remarriage

[illegible]

Pensions, Finance and Tax Review. A 16-page guide to managing money and saving tax

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3021.1	(+34.2)
Yield	4.47%	
FT-SE A All share	1494.36	(+12.77)
Nikkei	16358.38	(-404.70)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4019.70	(+36.31)*
S&P Composite	487.20	(+4.04)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅞%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	101 21/32*	(101 11/32)
Yield	7.49%*	(7.51%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅝%	(6 11/16%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	101 7/16	(100 27/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5810*	(1.6092)
London:		
$	1.5839	(1.6155)
DM	2.2296	(2.2470)
FFr	7.9660	(8.0060)
SFr	1.8657	(1.8740)
Yen	143.74	(146.20)
£ Index	85.1	(85.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4115*	(1.4010)
FFr	5.0225*	(4.9825)
SFr	1.1795*	(1.1679)
Yen	91.15*	(90.90)
$ Index	91.6	(90.8)

Tokyo close Yen 91.15

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May)	$16.50	($16.50)

GOLD

London close	$381.55	($381.55)

* denotes midday trading price

In the pipeline

British Gas is likely to retain its dominance in the UK gas market over the next ten years despite the Government's plan to introduce competition in the domestic gas business, according to a report published yesterday on the long-term future of the gas industry. **Page 22**

Lloyd's names win High Court victory

By Sarah Bagnall, Insurance Correspondent

A GROUP of 1,594 Lloyd's names yesterday won a High Court victory that is expected to lead to compensation running into several hundred million pounds.

Mr Justice Phillips ruled that the names, who have lost £525 million on syndicates run by the now collapsed Feltrim agency, had been the victims of negligent underwriting. The litigants include Lord Shuttleworth, chairman of National & Provincial Building Society and Sir Peter Miller, a former Lloyd's chairman.

Damon de Laszlo, chairman of the Feltrim Names Association, said the judgment was a "great victory" and he expected to recoup a "substantial proportion" of the losses incurred. However, he said the victory had "come too late to save some names from financial ruin and great domestic distress".

The names were suing 53 Lloyd's agencies to recover losses incurred on syndicates 540, 542 and 847 in the years 1987, 1988 and 1989, when there were a string of major disasters. The losses resulted from the LMX spiral, a complex web of reinsurance contracts. Mr Justice Phillips said: "Spiral business was an aberration" and the idea that reinsurance was protecting names was "largely illusory".

De Laszlo: 'too late'

Market-rigging plotters walk free

By George Sivell

A FORMER merchant banker with SG Warburg walked free from court yesterday in spite of having been found guilty of rigging the stock market.

The one-time banker, Michael Ward, 46, former chairman and chief executive of European Leisure; Jeremy Howarth, 49, European's deputy chairman and finance director; and George Hendry, 63, the operations director, walked from Southwark Crown Court yesterday after having been convicted on February 10.

Judge Mota Singh, QC, ordered Ward and Howarth to each do 220 hours' community service. Ward was told to pay £63,087 compensation and £20,000 towards the cost of the four-month trial. Howarth was told to pay £151,252 compensation and £20,000 costs. Hendry was conditionally discharged for 12 months after the judge said that he was sure he would not come before a court again.

Judge Singh said that he was satisfied that the defendants were "sucked into dishonesty" by the "ethos" of a hostile bid. He said that Ward had "masterminded" the secret share support that saw company and directors' money used to prop up European's share price during its bid for Midsummer Leisure, "in which the European share price was absolutely crucial".

The judge said he had read character references that spoke of the defendants' reputation for "honour, fairness and dignity". It was sad to see businessmen of otherwise "impeccable character" convicted of dishonesty. The judge said he was able to free the men in the public interest because they had been punished enough.

Ward, of Belgravia, central London, was convicted of conspiracy to defraud and of theft of company money. Howarth, of Buckingham, was convicted of conspiracy to defraud and of theft. Hendry, of Coventry, admitted conspiracy to defraud.

Art imports push trade gap to £1.6bn

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

BRITAIN'S trade deficit deteriorated alarmingly in December to £1.64 billion from a shortfall of £754 million in November but this was largely because of one-off shipments of artworks for auction in Britain.

Figures for trade with non-European countries already published suggest January's global trade performance will be better. Central Statistical Office figures show January's non-EU trade deficit was £303 million, far smaller than the £1.11 billion deficit in December.

Analysts said the sharp widening in December's trade deficit was mostly due to the big shortfall against non-EU countries and put it down to an erratic surge in imports of expensive art and jewellery for auction. This could be reversed if the items are sold to overseas buyers.

Despite December's bad figure, the 1994 trade gap as a whole narrowed sharply to £10.73 billion from £13.39 billion in 1993. This was the lowest annual figure since 1991. The Institute of Export said yesterday 1994 had set a record for British exporters. "The opening of the single market and our place within it has given many smaller companies the confidence to venture overseas."

Richard Needham, Trade Minister, said: "This was the year in which British goods reached parts of the world they have never reached before." The narrowing in the trade deficit in 1994 largely reflected strong exports, particularly to countries outside the EU. Reacting to yesterday's figures, Jonathan Loynes, UK economist at HSBC Markets, said they took some of the gloss off an otherwise excellent year for trade. "But don't panic just yet, they should largely represent a one off blip rather than the beginning of a marked deterioration in the trade position," he said.

The one slightly worrying sign in December's figures was a fall in exports, particularly to non-EU countries, with manufactured exports down 3 per cent. Hoare Govett, the broker, said this ties in with the weakness of recent industrial production but added Confederation of British Industry surveys still suggest export prospects are good. Sterling fell one pfennig and more than two cents against the dollar.

Stock markets, page 24

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0690

British Gas 'will dominate free domestic market'

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Gas is likely to retain its dominance in the UK gas market over the next ten years despite the Government's plan to introduce competition in the domestic gas business, according to a report yesterday on the long-term future of gas.

The report, funded by TransCo, British Gas's transportation and storage arm, also says that some independent gas companies are likely to be forced out of the gas market as the business evolves.

The Government is currently taking through Parliament a Bill to open the domestic gas market in Britain, with the intent of introducing full competition by 1998.

But the report for TransCo, compiled by the energy consultant Gas Strategies, says that British gas consumers could miss many of the potential benefits of gas liberalisation if the Government and the industry fail to take longer-term decisions and decide instead on short-term gains.

Based on survey and interview research within the gas industry, the report says that expectations of independent gas companies making very substantial inroads into the UK residential gas market over the next ten years following the Government's introduction of competition are very limited.

Gas Strategies says that the maximum share obtainable over the next ten years was put at 30 per cent of the market, with most thinking 15-20 per cent a more likely range.

Such a share would leave British Gas dominant in the market "by a large margin", and also suggested it would be the market's price leader.

The study also shows concern among independents about their ability to buy gas for the residential market without a "reasonable assurance" of their customer base. The report suggests it will be "difficult" to impose service conditions on independents — central to the Government's Bill — in what is likely to be a "very fluid" market for gas.

Significant imbalances between supply and demand are likely to lead to price instability, the study says, and the likely number of "false starts" in the market will exacerbate the level of uncertainty and risk faced by new entrants to the business. The study says: "It is inevitable that some of the 30 or so marketers will pull out or be forced out of the gas business as it evolves."

Gas Strategies said that political pressures would play a "major role" in development of the gas market, with the issues of social obligations and energy efficiency initiatives still unresolved.

James Ball, a Gas Strategies senior partner, forecast yesterday that there would be extensive changes in regulation, probably including the merging of the regulatory bodies for gas and electricity. He urged companies to be "practical and flexible" in their approach to the newly opened gas market.

JAMES MORGAN

David Lloyd, left, the Davis Cup captain, was entrepreneur of the year at the 1994 PLC Awards, sponsored by Coopers & Lybrand in association with *The Times*. First Technology, chaired by Fred Westlake, right, was company of the year. Sir Tim Bell presented the awards.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Exco slides on lower second-half volumes

POOR volumes in world bond and foreign exchange markets in the second half of 1994 hit Exco, the securities firm floated last year at 175p per share. Profits for the year to December 31 rose from £41.5 million to £43.5 million, below market estimates and Exco shares initially fell 13p yesterday to 169p.

The company gave warning that while market activity increased in January and February, trading had not reached the levels of the first half of last year. Exco, which acts purely on an agency basis and does not take positions, depends on increased volumes and market share to grow its business. Peter Edge, Exco's chief executive, said fixed-income broking benefited from the recent Mexican crisis and its derivatives operations are expected to grow despite recent events. "Our volumes have gone back up since the Barings thing: there was a brief lull when bank compliance officers were checking everything," he said. EPS rose from 18.4p to 19.3p and the total dividend for the year is 6p.

Tempus, page 24

Works councils forecast

LEADING Japanese companies operating in Britain, such as Sony, Nissan and Honda, will set up European-style works councils under new laws from Brussels, the Trades Union Congress forecast yesterday. The TUC predicted that 25 Japanese companies in the UK were likely to be covered by the terms of the EU directive on works councils, which require companies meeting certain requirements on employee numbers to establish formal councils to consult employees on key issues. The unions said that up to 40,000 UK workers employed in Japanese-owned firms in Britain could be affected.

Warburg sells Pallas

SG WARBURG, the investment bank, has sold Pallas Group, its vendor leasing subsidiary, to GE Capital Europe for £71 million. Pallas, based in Bristol, provides financing to manufacturers in the telecommunications, information technology and office equipment industries. Established in 1984, it now has assets of £330 million and 280 employees. In the year to March 31, 1994, the business earned taxable profits of £4 million. The purchase price is subject to adjustment after a final audit to February 28. Warburg offered the business for sale last year.

Financial rand axed

SOUTH Africa's dual currency system will be end on Monday after Chris Liebenberg, the finance minister, announced the scrapping of the financial rand. A unitary currency will replace the commercial rand and the financial rand, which was the unit for foreign investors in South Africa. The move comes in the wake of intense market speculation about the imminent demise of the finrand, which had reduced the gap between the two currencies to an all-time low of 3.2 per cent by yesterday's close. The finrand closed at 5.81 to the pound and the commercial rand at 5.75.

Beckwith sets up funds

JOHN BECKWITH, the property entrepreneur who made a fortune with his brother Peter selling London & Edinburgh Trust for £491 million to Swedish insurer SPP in 1990, is backing the launch of a series of international property funds with plans for stock market listings in Luxembourg and London. Beckwith Property Fund Management, a joint venture with Richard Ellis, the surveyors, and American International Group, an insurance group with assets of $100 billion, intends to launch property funds in Western and Central Europe, South-East Asia and South America.

Coutts Consulting buys

COUTTS CONSULTING GROUP, the career consultancy and outplacement company, is buying Alternative, a leading European outplacement services group, for up to £13.2 million. Coutts is buying the group from Scottish Television for an initial £9.6 million to be funded by £3 million of cash and 12.7 million new shares, giving Scottish TV a 27.5 per cent stake in Coutts. Coutts broke even in the year to December 31, against a provision-driven loss of £4.89 million last time. The final dividend of 1.1p (nil), payable on June 2, makes 1.5p (nil) for the year.

Nationwide announces new rates for savers.

FROM 12TH MARCH 1995

NEW RATES FOR PERSONAL INVESTORS

CashBuilder

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1 - £499	0.50%	0.38%
£500 - £1,999	3.80%	2.85%
£2,000 - £4,999	4.20%	3.15%
£5,000 - £9,999	4.40%	3.30%
£10,000 - £24,999	4.90%	3.68%
£25,000+	5.15%	3.86%

CapitalBuilder

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1,000 - £4,999	4.40%	3.30%
£5,000 - £9,999	4.60%	3.45%
£10,000 - £24,999	5.20%	3.90%
£25,000 - £49,999	5.50%	4.13%
£50,000+	5.80%	4.35%

MonthlyIncome

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1,000 - £4,999	3.90%	2.93%
£5,000 - £9,999	4.20%	3.15%
£10,000 - £24,999	4.80%	3.60%
£25,000 - £49,999	5.20%	3.90%
£50,000+	5.60%	4.20%

TESSA

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£25 - £2,999	6.40%	4.80%
£3,000 - £4,799	6.50%	4.88%
£4,800 - £6,599	6.60%	4.95%
£6,600 - £8,399	6.70%	5.03%
£8,400 - £9,000	6.80%	5.10%

Smart 2 Save†

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1 - £1,999	3.85%	2.89%

The Smart Account†

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1 - £1,999	4.10%	3.08%

†CashBuilder rates apply to balances of £2,000 and over on both Smart 2 Save and The Smart Account.

FlexAccount

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1 - £499	0.50%	0.38%
£500 - £4,999	1.00%	0.75%
£5,000 - £9,999	1.80%	1.35%
£10,000 - £24,999	2.80%	2.10%
£25,000+	3.80%	2.85%

Special Renewal Bond

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1,000 - £4,999	5.20%	3.90%
£5,000 - £9,999	5.60%	4.20%
£10,000 - £24,999	6.60%	4.95%
£25,000 - £49,999	6.80%	5.10%
£50,000 - £99,999	7.15%	5.36%
£100,000+	7.55%	5.66%

InvestDirect

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£2,000 - £9,999	5.70%	4.28%
£10,000 - £24,999	6.35%	4.76%
£25,000 - £49,999	6.55%	4.91%
£50,000 - £99,999	6.75%	5.06%
£100,000+	6.90%	5.18%

Bonus 60*

	Annual		Monthly	
	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1,000 - £4,999	4.80%	3.60%	4.30%	3.23%
£5,000 - £9,999	5.00%	3.75%	4.60%	3.45%
£10,000 - £24,999	6.40%	4.80%	6.10%	4.58%
£25,000 - £49,999	6.70%	5.03%	6.30%	4.73%
£50,000 - £99,999	6.95%	5.21%	6.55%	4.91%
£100,000+	7.15%	5.36%	6.75%	5.06%

*Bonus 60 and Bonus 60 Monthly rates include a 0.5% gross p.a. (0.38% net p.a.) bonus which is credited to the account annually, if no withdrawals are made during the calendar year. The bonus is variable but will be 0.5% gross p.a. (0.38% net p.a.) in 1995.

TESSA: minimum age for eligibility 18 years. Only one TESSA per person. Term 5 years. *Maximum investment limits are £3,000 in first year and £1,800 in subsequent 4 years subject to* the overall limit of £9,000. Interest is subject to tax at the basic rate on termination prior to maturity for any reason other than death. TESSA's are subject to Inland Revenue regulations which may vary. Interest paid annually on all above accounts except Bonus 60 (Monthly) and *MonthlyIncome, where interest is paid monthly, and Smart 2 Save and The Smart Account,* where interest is paid half-yearly.

NEW RATES FOR BUSINESS INVESTORS

BusinessInvestor

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£2,000 - £4,999	3.75%	2.81%
£5,000 - £9,999	4.25%	3.19%
£10,000 - £24,999	4.75%	3.56%
£25,000 - £49,999	5.25%	3.94%
£50,000+	5.65%	4.24%

If the account balance on BusinessInvestor falls below £2,000 interest will be paid at 0.5% gross p.a. (0.38% net p.a.). Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the first day of *March, June, September and December for BusinessInvestor and PortfolioInvestor.*

PortfolioInvestor

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1 - £49,999	6.20%	4.65%
£50,000+	6.40%	4.80%

TreasurersAccount

	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£1+	2.95%	2.21%

Interest is paid half-yearly on TreasurersAccount on the last day of June and December. PortfolioInvestor is only available for Pension Funds.

NEW RATES FOR ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE

Nationwide Discontinued Accounts

Account Name	Balance	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
TwoYearBond	£1,000 - £2,999	5.20%	3.90%
	£3,000 - £4,999	5.40%	4.05%
	£5,000 - £9,999	5.60%	4.20%
CapitalBond Direct	£10,000+	6.85%	5.14%
*AssetReserve	£2,000 - £4,999	3.75%	2.81%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.25%	3.19%
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.75%	3.56%
	£25,000 - £49,999	5.25%	3.94%
	£50,000+	5.65%	4.24%

Nationwide Anglia – Discontinued TESSA Accounts

Account Name	Balance	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
**TESSA Bond & Linked Bond	£3,000 – £9,000	6.70%	5.03%
Monthly	£3,000 – £9,000	6.20%	4.65%
TESSA Flexible Savings	£25 - £2,999	6.30%	4.73%
	£3,000 - £4,799	6.40%	4.80%
	£4,800 - £6,599	6.50%	4.88%
	£6,600 - £8,399	6.60%	4.95%
	£8,400 - £9,000	6.70%	5.03%

Nationwide Anglia – Other Discontinued Accounts

Account Name	Balance	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
CapitalBonus 180	£500 - £4,999	4.60%	3.45%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.80%	3.60%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.15%	4.61%
	£25,000 +	6.45%	4.84%
CapitalBonus 90	£500 - £4,999	4.40%	3.30%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.60%	3.45%
	£10,000 - £24,999	5.20%	3.90%
	£25,000 +	5.50%	4.13%
CapitalBonus 90 Monthly/Half Yearly	£500 - £4,999	3.90%	2.93%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.20%	3.15%
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.80%	3.60%
	£25,000 +	5.20%	3.90%

Nationwide Anglia – Other Discontinued Accounts

Account Name	Balance	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
BonusBuilder	£1 - £499	0.50%	0.38%
	£500 - £1,999	3.80%	2.85%
	£2,000 - £4,999	4.20%	3.15%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.40%	3.30%
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.90%	3.68%
	£25,000 +	5.15%	3.86%
IncomeBond	£2,000 - £9,999	4.30%	3.23%
	£10,000 +	6.10%	4.58%
TaxFree Option Instant	£1 - £499	0.50%	0.38%
	£500 - £4,999	3.80%	2.85%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.40%	3.30%
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.90%	3.68%
	£25,000 +	5.15%	3.86%
TaxFree Option 90 Day	£500 - £4,999	4.40%	3.30%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.60%	3.45%
	£10,000 - £24,999	5.20%	3.90%
	£25,000 +	5.50%	4.13%
TaxFree Option 180 Day	£500 - £4,999	4.60%	3.45%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.80%	3.60%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.15%	4.61%
	£25,000 +	6.45%	4.84%
Double Bonus	£500 +	3.80%	2.85%
Bonus 90	£200 - £9,999	4.40%	3.30%
	£10,000 - £19,999	5.20%	3.90%
	£20,000 +	5.50%	4.13%
Subscription Share	£1 - £200 per month (or £400 joint)	4.40%	3.30%

*If the account balance on AssetReserve falls below £2,000 interest will be paid at 0.5% gross p.a. (0.38% net p.a.). Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December for AssetReserve.

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Nationwide

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Lehman responds to Chinese

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

LEHMAN BROTHERS, the American investment bank, has rejected allegations that it lured an inexperienced employee of a big Chinese metals group into a loss-making derivatives trading scheme.

Lehman's response came yesterday after China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corporation (Minmetals) filed a $128 million suit against it in New York. The Chinese counter-suit was prompted by a Lehman suit seeking to recover $53 million in trading losses from foreign exchange and swap transactions done on behalf of Minmetals.

Escalation of the Lehman-Minmetals battle followed agreement by China International Trust and Investment Corp (Citic), a leading Chinese state corporation, about $42 million that it owed to 14 London Metal Exchange brokers.

Xu Shiwei, Citic's chief negotiator, said that final agreement on Thursday about losses made by his company's Shanghai operation meant that payments to the London brokers would start soon.

In the Lehman-Minmetals dispute, the allegedly inexperienced employee has been identified as Hu Xiaodong, Minmetals' vice-president, who had dealt in currencies since 1992. There was no truth in claims that Minmetals was a victim of an unauthorised trading scheme, Lehman said.

Minmetals' lawyer said that Lehman sought to portray a case of a Chinese company failing to pay its debts, but it represented "a classic case of a global investment bank putting profits before prudence, and grossly and negligently disregarding the interests of its client".

Write-offs hit Scottish Television

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

A FALL in advertising revenue, and write-offs on the sale of its loss-making outplacement consultancy, cut Scottish Television's pre-tax profits to £2 million, from £13 million, in the year to December 31.

The result was below the £9 million forecast by STV in October due to a £7.5 million goodwill write-off on Alternative International, the outplacement business sold to Coutts Consulting Group.

In the year, STV had a now-resolved dispute with Unilever, a big advertiser, over costs and also was forced, by the Office of Fair Trading, to alter its airtime sales arrangements. The OFT held that Granada Group's takeover of London Weekend Television concentrated too much television advertising in the Time Exchange sales house, which acted for STV and Granada. STV had to to move sales house, to TSMS, and the upheaval led to advertising revenue falling 3 per cent, to £73.5 million, from £75.9 million.

A final dividend, due on June 5, of 11.8p (10.25p) makes 14.06p (12.41p).

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TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.27	2.10
Austria Sch	16.91	15.41
Belgium Fr	49.77	45.47
Canada $	2.368	2.208
Cyprus Cyp£	0.760	0.705
Denmark Kr	9.88	8.88
Finland Mkk	7.56	6.91
France Fr	8.47	7.82
Germany Dm	2.41	2.20
Greece Dr	383.00	358.00
Hong Kong $	13.06	12.06
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2937	4.5437
Italy Lira	2775.00	2620.00
Japan Yen	151.00	145.00
Malta	0.606	0.561
Netherlds Gld	2.687	2.457
Norway Kr	10.66	9.86
Portugal Esc	249.00	230.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.41
Spain Pta	214.50	201.50
Sweden Kr	12.09	11.29
Switzerland Fr	2.02	1.84
Turkey Lira	refer	84977.0
USA $	1.704	1.574

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Shock treatment

'Stephen Littlechild's decision triggered a financial, political and industrial furore which makes the August row over pricing look like a little local difficulty . . .'

Business The Sunday Times tomorrow

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MVI: Peter Clark and Christopher Turner

Whipping up shockwaves on the airwaves

partners in power

Martin Waller meets the two men behind one of the fastest-growing media groups — and the populist Talk Radio UK

DENZIL McNEELANCE

MVI's Peter Clark, left, and Christopher Turner, the winning combination of Labour-voting media entrepreneur and Conservative-voting trained accountant

Every new media venture in Britain can expect to spend a season being savaged by the critics as a public laughing stock. This was doubtless true of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*; it was certainly true of Channel 4, once derided as a hot-bed of left-wing subversion, and of various other ventures that are now successful businesses.

The latest occupant of the media village stocks is Caesar the Geezer. Caesar and his cohorts of "shock jocks" are the mainstay of Talk Radio UK, vociferous and opinionated, having made an effortless transition from the four-ale bar to the public airwaves and brought with them their firm views on foreigners and capital and corporal punishment.

The men behind Talk Radio should surely be a couple of cynical, streetwise hustlers in sheepskin coats, with an eye for a fast buck and no great scruples about how to make it. Instead we have Peter Clark, 51-year-old Labour voter and media entrepreneur, and his 45-year-old sidekick, Christopher Turner, a Tory-voting trained accountant.

As the biggest investors in Talk Radio, they are not taking the criticism to heart. "If everybody said it was wonderful, I would sell," Clark laughs.

He started as a car salesman, and slipped by accident into theatrical management. "I'm not a member of the Hampstead chattering classes — I've got four O levels," he claims.

The two men now run Media Ventures International (MVI), probably the fastest-growing of the new media umbrella groups riding the twin waves of the growth of the independent television producer and the ever-expanding appetite for new product.

MVI, a web of owned and part-owned ventures funded mainly by American capital, takes in film and television production, via the company behind *Shadowlands*, the heart-tugging film of the tragic marriage of the writer C. S. Lewis, and television series such as *Jeeves & Wooster* and the adaptations of Agatha Christie's Poirot stories.

The company is one of the main shareholders in the operator of the Teletext screen news franchise. It runs a trade exhibition dedicated to television news, has a production finance and management side that allows other programme-makers to raise bank funds and boasts a distribution business responsible, among other things, for the worldwide spread of the Australian teenage soap *Heart Break High*.

"As more and more systems develop — cable, digital stations, whatever — there will be a need for more and more product," says Clark. "The problem is, how do you find it?"

MVI started off in distribution alone, but Clark and Turner always had higher ambitions. "We weren't focused on the distribution company — our intention was to start there and see where we got to," says Clark.

Balding and ebullient, he does most of the talking. Turner is more soft-spoken and has difficulty getting a word in edgeways, although both insist they share the honours when debating among themselves.

They operate out of an antiseptic set of offices at the top of the old Norwich Union building in London's Piccadilly, in an admirably non-hierarchical fashion quite in keeping with Clark's New Labour Party credentials.

"Chris isn't my finance director," he says. "We're genuinely partners. We don't have any titles — there doesn't seem to be any need for it. These things can be more confusing or divisive than they are beneficial. It's an understood structure by everybody who works here that decisions are taken jointly by Chris and me. If I have a skill, I'm a salesman. That's what I do — and that's why I probably talk more."

> ‘Titles can be divisive . . . Decisions are taken jointly by the two of us’

Despite their avoidance of formal roles, Turner is clearly the numbers man and Clark admits he is more likely to become involved in the financial details once the two of them have decided on a venture.

Turner says: "Peter understands finance perfectly, but doesn't always want to become deeply involved in it." His partner counters: "Chris is a chartered accountant, he has those skills — but I've a bigger address book."

Both came out of ITV franchise companies. Turner was with London Weekend until a brief spell with a French investment group. Clark worked for TVS, the southern England broadcaster that failed to be reappointed at the last franchise round, after being brought low financially by the purchase of MTM, the American programme-maker founded by the actress Mary Tyler Moore.

"When I left TVS in May 1989 I had been running the diversification subsidiary, which we had built up to be an extremely successful business, but I had fallen out with the chief executive, effectively over the acquisition of MTM," says Clark.

James Gatward, that chief executive and not a difficult man to fall out with, was himself subsequently ousted by the TVS board. By then, the two had struck out at MVI. Their first option, later shelved, was a corporate takeover of TVS itself.

They were aided in this by Arthur Price, an American and one of the former owners of MTM, who had himself by then fallen out with Gatward. Surely there must have been an element of revenge?

"Absolutely not the case — I saw it as a company of some value which could be saved," insists Clark. He still believes one option at MVI, which he expects to float on the stock market within three years, could be a bid for another financially-strapped media company.

Such red-blooded capitalism surely hardly squares with his Labour views? Clark points out that several other media luminaries, such as Lord Hollick, of MAI, and Greg Dyke, formerly with London Weekend, share his political views. "If we believe that by acting we can achieve better value for the company and for the shareholders who own that company, I have no problem as a member of the Labour Party. I reconcile it because I actually believe our business and the country generally would function under a Labour government led by Tony Blair."

Turner chips in here. "I'm not sure that I'm convinced that Tony Blair can hold some of the more unruly elements of the Labour Party together."

If the two often fall out over politics, areas of disagreement over the business are almost unknown. "There's only been one occasion — it was about our personal pension fund," Clark recalls. He wanted to sell shares in London Weekend, convinced that its chairman, Sir Christopher Bland, would fail to get the franchise renewed. Turner was equally convinced his former employer would succeed. "All I could say was, I know Christopher Bland and I don't believe he is going to lose."

Significantly, Clark prevailed. They sold — wrongly, as it turned out. Outsiders say that although the partnership is nominally equal, Clark's views tend to prevail. "You are going to have to accept this," insists Clark. "We have tremendous personal respect for each other. The way we have created this business together from scratch and the way we have developed it is more important than any one business decision."

Any major falling-out, he accepts, would mean the end of the partnership. "But we've been going for five years through some really tough times and it hasn't happened. I think it's unlikely it will happen."

Trafalgar needs new battle after war that nobody won

The pursuer of Northern Electric is bound to try again somewhere, **Eric Reguly** writes

Trafalgar's Rich, left, and Keswick want safe cash flow

Trafalgar House will be back. The company, whose £11-a-share bid for Northern Electric lapsed yesterday, may have a diminished affection for Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, but it still hungers for an acquisition.

Wounded virility has nothing to do with it. It is hard to argue that Trafalgar is retreating with its tail between its legs when Professor Littlechild effectively changed the rules in the middle of the game. On Tuesday, he announced that he may tighten electricity price controls because the dozen regional electricity companies in his portfolio seemed more concerned with pleasing their shareholders than pleasing their customers. By the end of the day, the entire sector was worth billions of pounds less, and Trafalgar found itself bidding £11 a share for a company that had been marked down to less than £8 a share.

Trafalgar will be back because it makes finanical sense for it to do so. The company, whose core operations are cyclical engineering and construction businesses, such as John Brown, needs a stable, cash-rich operation to tide it over during lean times. More importantly, Trafalgar has written off about £225 million in advance corporation tax. It also has capital gains and big trading losses that could be offset against Northern's enormously profitable businesses.

Indeed, Trafalgar's own financial situation has not improved lately. The company gave warning last month that it would slump into loss in the first half and have disappointing results for the year to the end of September after paying compensation to passengers on the QE2's disastrous Christmas cruising.

Trafalgar will not deny that it needs a company such as Northern as much, or more than, ever. Rodney Leach, a non-executive director of Trafalgar, said: "The fundamental arguments are unchanged."

Trafalgar also has an accomplice, Swiss Bank Corporation, its financial adviser, that undoubtedly will urge it on. Swiss Bank's motives, like Trafalgar's, are wholly mercenary. It stood to rake in the bulk of the estimated £60 million cost of making the bid, one of the most expensive that the City has seen. Since most of its fees are "success-related", Swiss Bank probably collected only a few million. It would welcome a chance to get its hands on the rest.

It appears unlikely, however, that Nigel Rich, Trafalgar's chief executive, and Simon Keswick, its chairman, will go after Northern again, even though they might dearly love to fire its top directors, who, after a slow start, put up an admirable defence.

Under Takeover Panel rules, Trafalgar cannot go after Northern for a full 12 months, unless the panel, with Northern's endorsement, gives it the nod. Northern, of course, has no intention of recommending Trafalgar's new proposed bid of £9.50 a share.

There are, however, 11 other candidates. One in particular, Yorkshire Electricity, stands out. It is big enough to satisfy Trafalgar's need and it has glowed brightly on Swiss Bank's radar screen. The bank's *market-makers, whose* electricity company purchases have rarely lost them money in the past few months, built up a £125-million, 8.25 per cent stake in Yorkshire. They now own about 6 per cent. Brian Keelan, Swiss Bank's corporate finance director, offered a firm "no comment" on Trafalgar's next target.

Institutional investors also are keen to see electricity company takeovers. Some of them, not to mention thousands of hapless private investors, bought Northern shares at £10 and £11 and got stung badly as they tumbled to £8.

At minimum, they will want Northern to make good on its commitment to tranfer a substantial amount of its wealth into their pockets. The company offered to pay them £5.07 a share in special dividends, preferred shares and the like if they ignored Trafalgar. If Professor Littlechild clamps down on electricity prices, £5.07 may be unrealistic, but something around £4 may not.

There were no winners in Trafalgar's battle for Northern. Trafalgar has no acquisition, Swiss Bank has collected few fees, Northern has thousands of dissatisfied shareholders, and institutions got burnt. Furthermore, thanks to Professor Littlechild's sudden bout of consumer altruism, Britain has been tarnished as a place to invest. As one American analyst said: "And they want to privatise Nuclear Electric — forget it."

As soon as the electricity regulator decides what, if any, new price controls will be imposed, the game will start all over again. And, despite the collective fatigue after a full winter on the front line, it will be welcomed.

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STOCK MARKET **MICHAEL CLARK**

Brokers count the cost of regulator's electric shock

Stephen Littlechild hinted that he expected further bids

SMALL broking firms and professional investors were last night licking their wounds and counting the cost of one of the worst savagings they have received on the stock market in recent years.

Fears were growing in the Square Mile yesterday that a number of fund managers are sitting on some horrific paper losses in the wake of this week's collapse in electricity shares following the announcement by Stephen Littlechild, Director-General of Electricity Supply, about tougher price controls.

At least one US securities house is reckoned to have taken a hit of £35 million on shares in **Yorkshire Electricity**, *which was regarded until earlier this week by many, as the next takeover target. Some of the smaller broking firms may also struggle next week to meet their commitments as settlement day looms.* Brokers generally are likely to spend an anxious weekend pondering the fall-out from one of the most damaging blows to market sentiment for some time.

Professor Littlechild showed little remorse for his actions when he addressed angry institutional investors at a presentation arranged by BZW in the City yesterday afternoon. He did hint that he expected to see more bids in the sector but that proved to be cold comfort for the institutions.

Meanwhile, all eyes were focused on **Northern Electric**, which touched 860p before ending a volatile session 10p off at 808p. This followed the decision of **Trafalgar House** to allow its £11 a share offer for Northern to lapse after the collapse in the latter's share price in the wake of the industry regulator's comments.

Trafalgar says it is prepared to come back with a lower offer of 950p a share, valuing Northern at £1.04 billion, providing such a move has the full backing of the Northern board. Last night brokers described the deal as dead in the water.

Prior to the move by Professor Littlechild, shares of Northern were trading at around the £10.55 level. By the close of business last night, almost 6 million shares had changed hands. Trafalgar finished 1p firmer at 60p.

But the action in Northern gave the rest of the Recs time to claw back some of their recent losses with a little help from Kleinwort Benson, the broker, which has been recommending the sector.

There were gains for **East Midland**, 7p to 605p, **Eastern**, 9p to 586p, **London**, 14p to 614p, **Manweb**, 10p to 655p, **Norweb**, 26p to 674p, **South Wales**, 17p to 673p, **Southern**, 13p to 610p, and Yorkshire, 9p to 673p.

Elsewhere, share prices put in a late advance, cheered by a strong opening rise on Wall Street where investors warmed to the latest US non-farm payroll numbers. The FT-SE 100 index rose back above 3,000 points to close just a shade below its best of the day with a rise of 34.2 at 3,021.1 as 722.5 million shares changed hands — a fall on the week of 4 points.

By contrast the FT-SE 250, which rose 9.3 to 3,320.4 yesterday, suffered a 71-point slide on the week reflecting the huge losses among the Recs.

The power generators managed to regain their poise with the partly-paid *shares in* **National Power** and **PowerGen** both closing up on the week. PowerGen finished 9p better at 185½p and National Power rose 7½p to 173½p. The marketplace is still full of talk that American investors may choose to withhold payment, due on Monday. The fully-paid shares in the two companies closed with small gains on the day.

GKN continued to go from strength to strength, consolidating its position as Britain's leading engineer with a rise of 15p to 594p. The shares have been enjoying a re-rating in recent weeks, with brokers taking a more optimistic line on prospects after confirmation of the £1 billion contract to supply the Ministry of Defence with a fleet of its Westland EH101 helicopters.

Figures earlier this week showed that pre-tax profits had more than doubled which provided scope for the first dividend increase since 1989.

Shares of **Wills Group** were *suspended at 14½p as the* group announced it was in bid *talks. The fluid handling specialist said it hoped to announce soon terms of a* recommended bid for the company. *Speculative attention* was focused on the shares in December when the group reacted to a sharp rise in its *share price. It told shareholders that it was considering a* range of strategic alternatives.

MFI Furniture firmed 2p to 112½p as Eagle Star announced it had increased its holding in the shares to 24 million shares, or 4.31 per cent.

Shares of **Albrighton** fell 2p to 10p after it issued a profits warning. The quarrying group said that problems with two of its major contracts would have a substantial adverse impact on full-year figures for the year to March 31. Restructuring costs were also expected to punch a hole in profits and the overall effect was likely to be a 10 per cent reduction in net assets. The group is currently in talks to sell property for a "substantial" cash amount.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Prices were squeezed higher on the back of firmer overseas bond markets as traders attempted to cover open positions. After a brief hiccup after publication of the latest US employment numbers, prices eventually closed near their best of the day, with the best gains recorded at the longer end of the market.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt climbed £$^{9}/_{16}$ to finish at £101$^{19}/_{32}$ as a total of 59,000 contracts were completed.

Among conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 ended £$^{11}/_{32}$ better at £95$^{25}/_{32}$, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 firmed £$^{5}/_{16}$ to £97$^{3}/_{8}$.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street shares continued to climb during the morning, having been bolstered by strength in the bond market and February's positive employment numbers, with the hope that this would eventually help to push the dollar higher. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 36.31 points to 4,019.70 at midday.

WSP Group, the consulting engineer, firmed 1p to 44p after saying it had won £20 million of business and giving details of a boardroom reshuffle. Stockbroker Beeson Gregory has lifted its pre-tax profit estimate for this year from £1.6 million to £1.8 million, against £1.2 million last time, pencilling in £2.4 million for 1996.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Northumbrian Water	819p	+77p	French bid approach
Northern Electric	808p	-248p	Lower bid from Trafalgar
Yorkshire Electricity	673p	-177p	Tougher price controls threat
De La Rue	904p	-128p	Profits warning
Costain Group	*11½p*	*-8p*	Bid hopes take a knock
United Biscuits	354p	+19p	Heavy options turnover
GKN	594p	+22p	Good figures and dividend rise
Scottish Television	406p	-18p	No reform in cross-holdings
Lloyds Chemists	214p	-70p	Figures below expectations

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	4019.70 (+36.31)
S&P Composite	487.20 (+4.04)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	16358.38 (-404.70)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	7949.39 (-127.40)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	393.66 (+0.95)

Sydney:

AO	1868.9 (-8.6)

Frankfurt:

DAX	1994.02 (-7.62)

Singapore:

Straits	2061.28 (-9.46)

Brussels:

General	6759.93 (+0.63)

Paris:

CAC-40	1743.10 (+16.03)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	587.20 (+0.30)

London:

FT 30	2311.9 (+23.1)
FT 100	3021.1 (+34.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	3320.4 (+9.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1231.87 (+3.96)
FT A All-Share	1484.36 (+12.77)
FT Non Financials	1604.05 (+15.49)
FT Gold Mines	n/a
FT Fixed Interest	109.29 (+0.30)
FT Govt Secs	90.22 (-0.41)
Bargains	25451
SEAQ Volume	722.5m
USM (Datastrm)	145.27 (-0.31)
US$	1.5820 (-0.0365)
German Mark	2.2373 (-0.0108)
Exchange Index	85.1 (-0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2220
£:SDR	1.0491
RPI	146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	162½	-1½
Bath Press (10)	12¼	...
Colleagues	126	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Geared Inc Inv C (100)	100	-1
Golden Rose Cms (135)	132	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
MCIT S Cap (35)	33	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Natl Power (p/p) (476)	173½	+7½
Photobition (150)	153	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	185½	+9
Schroder Inc Grth Uts	495	...
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	101	-½
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	182	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadbury Sch Cv Ln (340)	190	+2
Cookson n/p (175)	14	+4½
Dalgety Cv 95 n/p (335)	66	-2
Horace Sml App n/p (90)	27	-1
Shorco n/p (90)	1	...
Torex Hire n/p (50)	2½	...
Unit Group n/p (39)	1½	...
Wyko n/p (52)	14	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

RMC Group	945p (+12p)
Redland	427p (+12p)
ICI	703p (+14p)
Takeda Chem	797p (+15½p)
BAT	*429p (+10½p)*
Forward Tech	54p (+11p)
GKN	594p (+15p)
Amersham	829p (+19p)
Thomson Corp	775p (+20p)
Boots	484p (+11p)
Shell	719p (+13p)
Glaxo	676½p (+11½p)

FALLS:

Lloyds	566p (-13p)
Chieftain Group	33p (-17p)
Copymore	130p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Trafalgar's last stand

THE Trafalgar/Northern tangle is as unprec*edented as any bid in the City's history,* and the escalating row will offer plenty of meat to *City advisers. Less clear is what is on offer to* investors after the blunderbuss intervention *of the regulator.*

Northern has chosen not to put the 950p a *share in cash on offer to its shareholders,* citing the impossibility of making a rational *estimate of what the company is worth* while the regulator is putting together what could be a *completely new and much tougher* pricing regime.

Trafalgar says Northern shareholders are being refused the chance to accept terms that are 50 per cent ahead of the sector average. The City institutions would like Trafalgar's *cash and could therefore cut up nasty.* But this is a risk the Northern board is prepared to take, betting that the *eventual new regime*, and the proportion of its £5 bundle of loyalty incentives it can release to shareholders, will prove more acceptable with the benefit of hindsight.

Small shareholders, who are almost certainly not now going to get any of Trafalgar's cash unless the latter manages to find some sort of unprecedented appeal procedure to allow it to progress, have three options. They can sell in the market and lock in clear gains *made* if they have been in since privatisation. They can sell some of their holding and switch to another electricity company, so dividing the risk. Or they can stay in and hope either for a fresh bid or generous treatment by the regulator and so by the Northern board. Given this regulator's propensity to surprise, the cautious investor could do worse than sell.

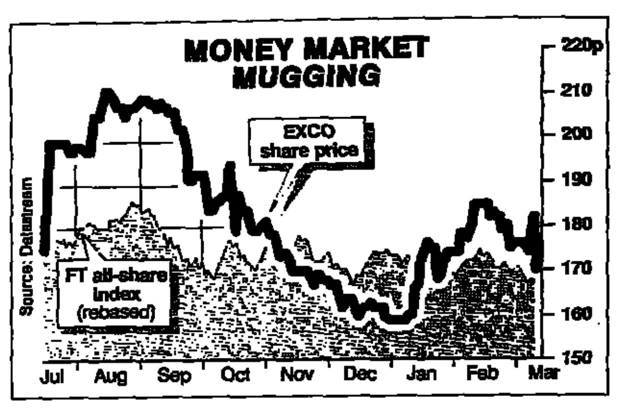
Exco

DULL results from Exco yesterday invite a brief journey down memory lane to the company's flotation last summer, subscribed 3.2 times by investors amid accusations that the issue was given away.

Markets have short memories, particularly interest-rate and currency markets, the bazaars in which Exco earns its daily bread. Roaring trade in the first quarter of 1994 propelled the company's *shares to double-digit* earnings multiples last summer, but sanity has prevailed since then and the market is forecasting flattish earnings.

Exco cares little which way the market is moving as long as dealing continues at a steady frantic pace. More dealing means more commission, and volatility is fine unless the market crashes and traders retreat to nurse bruised balance sheets and egos. Unfortunately, this offers little guide to an Exco shareholder because there is no regular accurate information on volume and market share.

Faced with low volumes, Exco needs to find other ways to gain market share. Unfortunately, buying securities firms is even riskier than trading derivatives. Exco will have to build up its business on its own, but recent management upheavals — the loss of its chief executive — are no advertisement for the company. Shareholders who really want a play on the financial markets can buy any *number* of *tradeable* derivatives that offer faster gains and losses.



Cable & Wireless

HAVING virtually thrown in the towel in the battle against BT in the United Kingdom, Cable & Wireless is taking a cue from big brother and applying the pruning secateurs to the operations of Hongkong Telecom, its highly successful Asian subsidiary.

Viewed from the UK, the monopoly position of HK Telecom looks very similar to BT many years ago and puts Cable & Wireless in the advantageous position of having experienced a deregulation dress rehearsal, from the stance of the interloper. Hence, the decision to drive through efficiencies before deregulation of the domestic market begins to bite next year.

HK Telecom provides 65 per cent of C&W's operating profit, but even substantial erosion of its domestic market by cable TV operators should not hurt too much, given that the HK Telecom retains a stranglehold on the international telephone lines until 2006.

Hong Kong is the jewel in C&W's ragbag of investments, and the 58 per cent stake provides much of the support for C&W's market value. Excluding HK from the equation leaves a business with a £400 million operating profit valued by the market at less than £1 billion. But the recent 11 per cent investment by Veba puts a damper on break-up scenarios. C&W is unlikely to survive in its present form, but a cosy merger looks to be the long-term exit route.

Scottish TV

THE year 1994 was one Scottish Television would rather forget. Almost everything that could go wrong did go wrong. A dispute with its largest advertiser and disruption to its airtime sales arrangements was always going to be damaging, and last year's sharp fall in profits prove the point. The current year, however, looks considerably more promising. The sale of Alternative International, the loss-making outplacement business, to Coutts Consulting Group is a positive move. It has no synergies with television.

On the advertising front, things are also improving. The group has struck a new three-year deal with Unilever, which does not include the heavy discounts originally demanded. The sales arrangement with TSMS is starting to deliver, with 70 per cent of airtime sales for the year already contracted and advertising revenue forecast to rise by 8 per cent in the first four months. If growth continues at that rate, STV will see a £5 million increase in advertising revenue, most of which falls to the bottom line.

But on a prospective p/e of 17 times, the shares are up with events.

EDITED: CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1002-1000	May	1043-1042
May	1004-1003	Jul	1055-1054
Jul	1007-1006	Sep	1065-1062
Sep	1012-1011	Dec	1080-1075
Dec	1018-1017		
Mar	1032-1031		Volume: 7761

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3347-3333	Nov	3186-3182
May	3297-3296	Jan	3165-3160
Jul	3235-3234	Mar	3130-3110
Sep	3195-3190		Volume: 3843

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	328.8-26.1
Spot: 382.5		Mar	325.8-22.6
May	379.9-78.5	May	325.7-21.1
Aug	365.5-64.5	Aug	323.7-18.2
Oct	335.5-34.0		Volume: 1490

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	93.98	124.85	123.53
(+/-)	+1.94	+1.25	+0.96
Eng/Wales:	94.01	125.32	123.45
(+/-)	+1.82	+1.37	+1.37
(%)	+9.0	-5.0	-5.0
Scotland:	90.02	123.26	123.85
(+/-)	+10.73	+0.92	-0.96
(%)	-34.0	-1.0	+11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.40	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.55	-0.15
Brent 15 day (May)	16.50	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.00	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.00	-0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 171 (n/c)	O: 174 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	146 (+2)	147 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	146 (+1)	147 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H May	146 (n/c)	147 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	108 (n/c)	110 (n/c)
Naphtha	174 (+2)	176 (+2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	144.50-44.75	Jul	146.25-46.50
May	144.25-44.50	Aug	148.00-48.50
Jun	144.75-45.00		Vol: 31229

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.57-16.59	Jul	16.42 BID
May	16.53-16.55	Aug	unq
Jun	16.50-16.53		Vol: 35431

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	109.95	Mar	104.75
May	111.15	May	105.75
Jul	112.35	Sep	98.25
Sep	100.15	Nov	100.50
Nov	101.15	Jan	102.50
	Volume: 745		Volume: 54

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	298.0	300.5
May	unq	347.5
Jul	—	—
		Volume: 80

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Apr 119.75-120.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2255	2235	2235
Apr 95	2266	2245	2245
May 95	2225	2195	2195
Jul 95	1965	1950	1950
Vol: 343 lots		Open Interest: 4093	

Index 2176 +65

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2912.0-2913.0	2903.0-2904.0	2308100
Lead ($/tonne)	583.50-584.00	598.50-599.00	156900
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1029.0-1030.0	1055.0-1056.0	499300
Tin ($/tonne)	5480.0-5490.0	5545.0-5547.0	21865
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1806.0-1807.0	1844.5-1846.5	1865625
Nickel ($/tonne)	7610.0-7620.0	7750.0-7760.0	82014

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Dom.	460	43	50	55	1	8½	13½
(*498)	500	14	24	31	12	25½	30½
Argyll	280	14	18½	23½	7½	14½	18
(*283)	300	6	10	15	19½	27	30
ASDA	70	1½	5½	6½	2	4	5½
(*70)	80	0	2	3	10	10½	12
Boots	460	26	35½	41½	3½	13½	16½
(*481)	500	5	15	22	23	35½	37½
Br Airways	360	31½	40½	45½	2½	10	14
(*388)	390	11½	22	29	12½	23	27½
BP	390	20½	28	35	4½	9½	15
(*403)	420	6	14	20	20	24½	30
Br Steel	140	18½	23½	24	0½	2½	4
(*157)	160	4	6½	12	6½	10	11½
C & W	360	28	37½	44	4	11	14
(*381½)	390	10½	21	28	16	25	28
CU	493	32½	—	—	8½	—	—
(*524)	543	4	—	—	40	—	—
ICI	700	22½	42½	52½	13½	24½	32
(*702½)	750	5½	20	30½	49½	54	60½
Kingfishr	420	22	31½	42	8½	19	22
(*437)	460	2½	14	24	35½	42½	44½
Land Sec	550	48½	55½	59	1	10	12½
(*593½)	600	12½	21½	28	14½	32½	36
M & S	360	22½	29½	35	2½	8½	11½
(*376½)	390	5½	13	19½	16	24	26½
Nat West	460	40½	54	60	2½	8	14
(*495)	500	14	29	36½	16	23	30½
Sainsbury	390	30½	37	43½	1½	9	11½
(*416½)	420	10½	18½	26½	11	22½	25
Shell	700	20	30½	43½	13½	21	27½
(*715½)	750	2½	11	21	52	54½	58½
Smkl Bch	500	26½	39	48½	6	15	21½
(*517½)	550	4½	15½	24½	34½	41½	47½
Storehse	200	15	19½	22½	1	5½	6½
(*212)	220	3½	8½	12	9½	15	16
Trafalgar	60	3½	6½	9	2½	4½	5
(*60)	70	0½	3	5½	10	11	11½
Unilever	1150	39	57½	84	18½	29	38
(*1179½)	1200	11	32½	57½	49	56½	64
Zeneca	850	27½	52½	68½	24½	35½	45
(*869½)	900	10	30½	46½	56½	64½	73

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	360	23½	30	36	6½	13	13½
(*373½)	390	8½	14½	20½	21	27	28½
Ladbroke	160	12	17	20	4½	7½	10
(*169½)	180	3½	8	11	16½	18½	21
Utd Bisc	330	27	34	39½	8½	12½	16½
(*353)	360	11	20½	25	24	28	32

March 10, 1995 Tot: 39155 Calls: 14384 Put: 24771 FT-SE Calls: 3886 Put: 7358

*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	420	12½	23	29	10	17½	20½
(*420½)	450	2½	—	—	30	—	—
Thames W	460	20	30½	35	7	23½	25
(*470½)	500	4½	12	17½	31	49	49½

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	420	15½	25	30½	18	28	31
(*428½)	460	4½	11	16½	48½	54½	57
BTR	300	16	23	26½	8½	12	16½
(*315)	330	3½	10½	13½	28	30	34
Br Aero	448	39	—	—	8	—	—
(*482½)	487	16½	—	—	24½	—	—
Br Telcm	360	19½	27	30½	6	14½	16½
(*367½)	390	5½	12	16½	24	32	34
Cadbury	409	29½	41	—	5½	9½	—
(*429)	447	9	20½	—	22½	27	—
Guinness	390	28½	32½	39½	6	10	13
(*414)	420	9½	18½	23½	21	24½	27½
GEC	280	14	19	22	6	12½	15
(*284)	300	5	9½	12½	17½	25	26½
Hanson	220	20½	23½	25	1½	4½	6½
(*236½)	240	7½	11½	14	8½	13	15½
LASMO	140	17½	21½	24½	2	3½	5
(*155½)	160	5½	10	13½	10	12	13
Lucas	180	14	20½	24	5½	8½	12½
(*189½)	200	5	11	15	16½	19	23
Pilkingtn	160	10½	13	16½	3½	7	9
(*165)	180	2	4½	7½	15½	19	20
Prudential	300	9	15½	19	15	17½	21
(*302)	330	1	5½	8½	38½	39½	41½
Redland	420	17½	24½	29½	21	26	31
(*427)	460	4	10½	15	52½	55	57½
R-Royce	140	17½	21	23½	2	4	5½
(*157)	160	5½	10½	13	10½	13	14½
Tesco	240	18½	22	25½	4	7	9½
(*254½)	260	6	11½	15	14	16½	19½
Vodafone	180	17	21	26	3½	7	9
(*191)	200	6½	11	15½	13	17	19
Williams	300	25	29	31½	5	9	13½
(*320)	330	6½	13	16½	20½	25	29

FT-SE INDEX (*3019½)

	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150
Calls						
Mar	128	81½	42	13	2½	1
Apr	142	105½	74½	49	29	15½
May	166	130	101	74½	53	36½
Jun	177	144½	115½	88½	67	50
Dec	267½	—	205½	—	158	—
Puts						
Mar	2½	5½	16	39	80½	130½
Apr	22½	35½	54½	79	109½	146½
May	37½	51	71	95	123½	158
Jun	49	65½	85	109	137½	169½
Dec	94½	—	131½	—	182½	—

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	420	17½	24½	31½	5	14½	20½
(*437)	460	0	6½	14½	38	40	44
Amstrad	150	15	20½	—	0½	3	—
(*165)	175	0½	7	—	11½	14½	—
Barclays	600	5½	25	37	13½	27½	37
(*604½)	650	0	9	15½	61	63½	69
Blue Circ	260	7½	17	23	1	13	18
(*266)	280	0½	8	14½	14	25½	30
Br Gas	280	5	13½	17	1½	11½	14
(*283½)	300	0	5½	9	16½	25	27
Dixons	200	7½	17	20½	1	7	12
(*206½)	220	0	7½	11	13½	18	23
Forte	220	11½	17	22½	0½	7½	10½
(*231)	240	0½	7	12½	10	18½	21
Hillsdwn	160	15	15½	17½	0	4½	7
(*173)	180	0½	4	8	7	17	18½
Lonrho	130	7½	14½	16½	0	4	6½
(*137½)	140	1	9½	11	3½	8½	11
Sears	90	8½	10	12	0	1½	3
(*98½)	100	1	3½	6½	2	6½	7½
Thrn Emi	1000	20	54½	66	3	20½	39½
(*1016)	1050	1	29½	39½	34½	46	67
Tomkins	220	6½	17	21	1	7½	12½
(*225½)	240	0	8	11½	14½	18½	24
TSB	220	9½	21	26	1	8	12½
(*229)	240	0	11	16	11½	18	22½
Wellcome	1000	40½	43½	57½	6	4½	6½
(*1040½)	1050	1½	14½	24½	25½	26½	32

	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	39½	60½	72½	9	19½	34
(*676½)	700	13	33	45½	33	43	59
HSBC	650	20½	37½	52½	30½	43½	53½
(*655½)	700	5	19½	33½	69	77	84½
Reuter	420	29½	42½	51	5½	13½	17½
(*446½)	460	7½	22	31	25	33½	37

	Series	May	Jul	Oct	May	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins	260	23½	29½	33½	5	8½	13½
(*275)	280	11½	18½	23	13½	17½	22½

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	140	5½	13	18½	1½	11	14½
(*143½)	160	0	5½	10½	16½	23½	27

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastern Gp	550	54½	68	73	11½	26½	31½
(*585½)	600	26½	41	48½	32	52½	57½

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	420	17	30½	36	0½	13	17
(*436)	460	0	11	16½	24	37	39½
Scot Pwr	300	15½	22	33	1	7½	13½
(*315)	330	0½	11	17	16	21½	29½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 68049	Mar 95	2992.0	3031.0	2984.0	3026.0	15102
	Jun 95	2999.0	3035.0	2990.5	3031.5	3660
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 4404	Mar 95	3315.0	3315.0	3315.0	3325.0	5
	Jun 95				3346.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 449842	Mar 95	93.16	93.20	93.12	93.15	16541
	Jun 95	92.36	92.40	92.30	92.33	30479
	Sep 95	*91.90*	*91.93*	*91.84*	*91.86*	*10921*
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 2813	Mar 95				93.68	0
	Jun 95				93.40	0
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 835317	Mar 95	95.00	95.00	94.95	94.97	21011
	Jun 95	94.78	94.80	94.74	94.78	43826
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 102787	Mar 95	101-00	101-16	101-00	101-14	2180
	Jun 95	101-05	101-23	101-01	101-19	59188
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	110.98	111.23	110.98	111.14	3041
	Sep 95				110.36	0
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 166685	Jun 95	90.31	90.66	90.12	90.63	131367
	Sep 95	89.90	89.90	89.90	90.18	2
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 28190	Mar 95	93.00	93.04	92.93	93.00	1502
	Jun 95	92.94	92.99	92.85	92.98	2143
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 43905	Mar 95	96.17	96.22	96.17	96.20	1077
	Jun 95	95.98	96.05	95.95	96.01	2951
Italian Govmt Bond *Previous open interest: 53835*	Jun 95	93.00	93.95	92.59	93.86	37673
	Sep 95	*92.30*	*92.30*	*92.30*	*92.86*	*37*

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 4½ Low 3½ Week fixed: 5⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼ ; 3 mth 6½ . Sell: 2 mth 6¼ ; 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¼-6⅛	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6½	6⅞-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅜-6¼	6⁹⁄₁₆-6½	6¹³⁄₁₆-6¹¹⁄₁₆	7⅛-7¹⁄₁₆	7¹¹⁄₁₆-7⁹⁄₁₆
Interbank:	6⁵⁄₁₆-6¼	6⁹⁄₁₆-6½	6¹³⁄₁₆-6¹¹⁄₁₆	7⅛-7¹⁄₁₆	7¹¹⁄₁₆-7⁹⁄₁₆
Overnight: open 5 , close 4 .					
Local Authority Deps:	6¼	n/a	6¹¹⁄₁₆	7⅛	7¹¹⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs:	6½-6⅜	6½-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⁷⁄₈-6¹³⁄₁₆	7⅛-6¹⁵⁄₁₆	7⅝-7⁹⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	6.11	*n/a*	6.22	6.43	*6.81*
Building Society CDs:	6⅜-6¼	6⅝-6½	6¹³⁄₁₆-6¹¹⁄₁₆	7⅛-7	7⅝-7½

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £2,479m allotted: £700m: Bids: £98.485% received: 92%: Last week: £98.47% received: 92%: Avge rate: £6.0752% last wk £6.1282%: Next week: £700m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-6	6⁹⁄₁₆-6⁷⁄₁₆	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4¹⁵⁄₁₆-4¹³⁄₁₆	4⅞-4¾	5-4¾	5⅛-5⁵⁄₁₆	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	6¾-6½	9-7
Swiss Franc:	3⁵⁄₁₆-3³⁄₁₆	3⅜-3¼	3⁷⁄₁₆-3⁵⁄₁₆	3⁷⁄₁₆-3⁵⁄₁₆	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2⅛-2	2⅛-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2⅜-2¼	2¼-1¾

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $382.50-382.90 Close: $381.30-381.80 High: $383.50-384.00 Low: $380.30-380.80 AM: $383.50 PM: $381.40

Krugerrand: $382.00-384.00 (£241.50-243.50)

Platinum: $418.85 (£262.05) Silver: $4.57 (£2.885) Palladium: $156.75 (£98.05)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Mar 10	*Range*	*Close*	*1 month*	*3 month*
Amsterdam	2.5001-2.5319	2.5001-2.5034	⅛-¼pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Brussels	46.26-46.72	46.26-46.36	1-7ds	3-9ds
Copenhagen	8.9910-9.0670	8.9910-9.0060	¼-1¼ds	½-2¼ds
Dublin	0.9965-1.0045	0.9965-0.9991	2-8ds	12-22ds
Frankfurt	2.2278-2.2597	2.2278-2.2309	⅛-¼pr	1-¾pr
Lisbon	234.65-237.99	234.65-235.29	100-121ds	243-290ds
Madrid	205.24-207.61	205.24-205.53	49-77ds	142-180ds
Milan	2636.30-2678.60	2636.30-2646.00	9-12ds	24-29ds
Montreal	2.2298-2.2652	2.2303-2.2334	0.29-0.40ds	0.53-0.68ds
New York	1.5834-1.6058	1.5834-1.5844	0.07-0.04pr	0.20-0.16pr
Oslo	9.9790-10.0520	9.9790-9.9940	1⅛-½pr	3⅛-2½pr
Paris	7.9590-8.0310	7.9590-7.9730	1⅛-2⅛ds	3⅛-4⅛ds
Stockholm	11.4170-11.5280	11.4170-11.4410	1⅛-2⅛ds	4⅞-6⅞ds
Tokyo	143.61-146.43	143.61-143.87	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Vienna	15.72-15.92	15.72-15.75	2⅛-1⅛pr	7⅛-6⅛pr
Zurich	1.8642-1.8881	1.8642-1.8671	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-1⅛pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3431-1.3440
Austria	9.95-9.96
Belgium (Com)	29.30-29.32
Canada	*1.4050-1.4055*
Denmark	5.6860-5.6910
France	5.0447-5.0462
Germany	*1.4162-1.4167*
Hong Kong	7.7308-7.7318
Ireland	1.5843-1.5858
Italy	*1672.50-1675.50*
Japan	91.30-91.40
Malaysia	2.5515-2.5535
Netherlands	1.5865-1.5890
Norway	6.3224-6.3244
Portugal	149.25-149.40
Singapore	1.4210-1.4230
Spain	129.90-130.00
Sweden	7.2255-7.2355
Switzerland	1.1825-1.1835

OTHER STERLING

*Argentina peso**	1.5887-1.5913
Australia dollar	2.1323-2.1343
Bahrain dinar	0.600-0.612
*Brazil real**	*1.4035-1.4076*
Cyprus pound	0.71-0.72
Finland markka	6.9375-7.0535
Greece drachma	*362.75-369.75*
Hong Kong dollar	12.2665-12.2719
India rupee	50.63-51.59
Kuwait *dinar KD*	0.47-0.48
Malaysia ringgit	4.0485-4.0529
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4532-2.4566
Pakistan rupee	49.10 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9675-6.0935
Singapore dollar	2.2547-2.2586
S Africa rand (fin)	5.8878-5.9232
S Africa rand (com)	5.7457-5.7652
U A E dirham	5.845-5.969

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	662	Legal & Gn	1,600
ASDA Gp	4,700	Lloyds Bk	8,200
Abbey Natl	12,000	*MEPC*	2,600
Alld Dom	2,400	Marks Spr	2,500
Argyll Gp	2,500	NatWst Bk	4,400
Arjo Wiggn	1,300	Nat Power	12,000
AB Foods	689	Nth Wst W	421
BAA	3,800	P & O	1,400
BAT Inds	3,200	Pearson	1,200
BOC	1,400	PowerGen	5,700
BP	4,900	Prudential	4,900
BTR	11,000	RMC	523
BT	10,000	RTZ	2,500
Bk of Scot	3,000	Rank Org	8,000
Barclays	11,000	Reckitt Col	681
Bass	4,000	Redland	2,400
Blue Circle	899	Reed Intl	1,800
Boots	872	Rentokil	1,500
Bowater	3,000	Reuters	6,100
Brit Aero	1,200	Rolls Royce	15,000
Brit Airwys	6,200	Ryl Ins	1,200
Brit Gas	5,600	Ryl Bk Scot	5,000
Brit Steel	5,900	Sainsbury	1,200
Burmah Cstl	631	*Schroders*	24
Cable Wire	4,000	Scot & New	937
Cadbury	1,100	Scot Power	3,600
Caradon	*1,300*	*Sears*	852
Carlton Cms	532	Svrn Trent	228
Cm Union	1,500	Shell Trans	6,900
Courtaulds	443	Slebe	438
De La Rue	2,500	SmKl Bch	4,400
Eastern Elec	2,500	Smith Nph	3,600
Enterpr Oil	1,800	Sthern Elec	925
Forte	355	Std Chartd	3,400
GKN	2,500	Sun Allnce	1,800
GRE	1,900	TI Gp	328
GUS	552	TSB	5,300
Gen Acc	431	Tesco	4,600
Gen Elec	2,300	Thames W	180
Glaxo	7,900	Thrn EMI	401
Granada	1,700	Tomkins	1,200
Grand Met	4,500	Unilever	1,700
Guinness	3,500	Utd Bisc	1,400
HSBC	7,400	Vodafone	9,100
Hanson	5,900	Warburg (SG)	797
ICI	2,900	Wellcome	6,000
Inchcape	2,700	Whitbread	1,100
Kingfisher	1,200	Wllms Hld	940
Ladbroke	4,900	Wolseley	1,300
Land Secs	1,500	Zeneca	4,400

WALL STREET

	Mar 10 midday	Mar 9 close
AMP Inc	37	38
AMR Corp	60½	60½
AT & T	51½	50½
Abbott Labs	35½	34½
Advanced Micro	34	34½
Aetna Life	54½	53½
Ahmanson (HF)	17½	17½
Air Prod & Chem	48½	47½
Albertson's	30½	30½
Alcan Aluminm	24½	24½
Alco Standard	67½	66½
Allied Signal	38½	37½
Alum Co of Am	38½	37½
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5½
Amerada Hess	50½	50½
Amer Brands	37½	37½
Amer El Power	32½	32
Amer Express	32½	32
Amer Genl Corp	30½	30½
Amer Home Pr	70½	70½
Amer Intl	101½	100½
Amer Stores	24½	24½
Ameritech	42½	41½
Amoco	61½	60½
Anheuser-Busch	57½	57
Apple Computer	40	39½
Archer Daniels	19½	18½
Armco	6½	6½
Armstrng Wrld	45½	45½
Asarco	25½	26
Ashland Oil	32½	32½
Atl Richfield	112½	111½
Auto Data Pro	61½	61½
Avery Dennison	38½	37½
Avon Products	54½	55½
Baker Hughes	20	20½
Baltim Gas & El	23½	23
Banc One	27½	27½
BankAmerica	47½	46½
Bank of NY	31½	30½
Bankers Tr NY	61½	60½
Barnett Banks	43½	44
Bausch & Lomb	33½	33
Baxter Intl	31½	31
Becton Dickinsn	53½	54½
Bell Atlantic	52½	51½
BellSouth	58½	57½
Black & Decker	26½	26½
Block (H&R)	39	38½
Boeing	46½	46½
Boise Cascade	32½	31½
Borden Inc	13½	13½
Bristol Myrs Sq	61½	61½
Browning Ferris	30½	30½
Brunswick	19½	19½
Burlington Nthn	57½	55½
CBS	65	63½
CNA Financial	72½	72½
CPC Intl	53½	52½
CSX	74½	72½
Campbell Soup	46½	45½
Can Pacific	13½	13½
Cptl Cities ABC	87½	86½
Carolina Pwr	26½	26½
Caterpillar	49½	49½
Central & SW	23½	23½
Champion Intl	39½	38½
Chase Manhat	35½	35½
Chemical Bk	38½	37½
Chevron Corp	47½	47½
Chrysler	41½	41½
Chubb Corp	78½	77½
Cigna Corp	73½	73½
Citicorp	41½	40½
Clorox	61½	61
Coastal Corp	28½	28½
Coca Cola	55½	55
Colgate-Palmolive	63½	62½
Columbia Gas	25½	25½
Compaq Comp	33½	33½
Comp Ast Intl	61½	61½
ConAgra	32½	32½
Conrail	52½	51
Cons Edison	26½	26½
Cons Nat Gas	36½	36½
Cooper Inds	38½	38½
Corning Inc	32½	32
Crown Cork	42½	42½
Dana Corp	23½	23½
Dayton Hudson	68½	67½
Deere	76½	75½
Delta Air Lines	56½	55½
Deluxe Corp	27½	27½
Detroit Edison	27½	27½
Digital Equip	33	32½
Dillard Dept St	26½	26
Disney (Walt)	55½	54½
Dominion Res	36½	36½
Donelley (RR)	34½	33½
Dover Corp	59½	59½
Dow Chemical	64½	63½
Dow Jones	35	34½
Dresser	20½	20½
Duke Power	39½	38
Dun & Bradstreet	52½	52½
Du Pont	55½	54½
Eastman Kodak	52	51½
Eaton Corp	50	49½
Emerson Elec	65½	63½
Engelhard Corp	26½	26
Enron Corp	33½	33½
Entergy	21	21½
Ethyl Corp	10	10
Exxon	65	64½
FMC Corp	59½	59
FPL Group	34½	34½
Federal Express	62½	61½
Fed Nat Mtge	75	74½
First Chicago	48½	48½
First Interstate	79½	78½
First Union Rlty	7½	7½
Fleet Finl Grp	31½	31½
Fluor Corp	47½	47½
Ford Motor	26½	25½
GTE Corp	33½	33½
Gannett	52½	52½
Gap Inc Del	31½	31½
Gen Dynamics	45½	45½
Gen Electric	54½	53½
Gen Mills	62½	61½
Gen Motors	41½	41½
Gen Reinsurance	127½	125½
Gen Signal	35½	35½
Genuine Parts	38½	38½
Georgia Pac	75	74½
Gillette	80½	80
Glaxo ADR	21½	21½
Goodrich (BF)	42½	42½
Goodyear Tire	36½	35½
Grace (W&R)	47	45
Grt Atl Pac Tea	21½	20½
Great Wstn Fin	17½	17½
Halliburton	37½	38½
Harcourt General	38	37½
Heinz (HJ)	38½	38½
Hercules	44½	43½
Hershey Foods	48	48
Hewlett Packard	119½	119½
Hilton Hotels	70	69½
Home Depot	44½	43½
Homestake Mng	16½	16½
Honeywell	36½	36½
Household Intl	44	43½
Houston Inds	37½	37½
Humana	23½	23½
ITT Corp	97½	96½
Illinois Tool	44½	43½
Illinova	22½	22½
INCO	26½	26½
Ingersoll Rand	30½	30
Inland Steel	26½	26½
Intel Corp	80½	80½
IBM	81½	80½
Intl Flav & Fr	50½	49½
Intl Paper	73½	72
James River Va	23½	23½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	59½	58½
Kellogg	56½	55½
Kerr-McGee	49½	49½
Kimberly-Clark	51½	51½
Kmart	12	12½
Knight-Ridder	55	54½
Lilly (Eli)	67½	67½
Limited Inc	18½	18½
LIN Brdcstng	121½	121½
Lincoln Nat	40½	40
Litton	34½	34½
Liz Claiborne	15	15½
Lockheed	77½	76½
Louisiana Pac	27½	27
MCI Comm	20½	20
Marriott Intl	32½	32½
Marsh & McLnn	82½	81½
Masco Corp	25½	25
May Dept St	34½	33½
Maytag Corp	16½	15½
McDonalds	33½	33
McDonnell D	57½	57
McGraw Hill	69½	69½
Mead Corp	52½	51½
Medtronic	63½	63½
Mellon Bk	37½	37½
Melville Corp	31½	31½
Merck Inc	41½	41½
Merrill Lynch	41½	40½
Minnesota Mine	55½	55½
Mobil Corp	90½	89½
Monsanto	78	77½
Morgan (JP)	63½	63
Motorola Inc	56½	56½
Natl Medical	14½	15
Natl Semi	17½	17
Natl Service Ind	26½	26½
Navistar Intl	13	13
NBD Bancorp	30½	30½
NY Times A	20½	20½
Newmont Mng	39½	39½
Niag Mohawk	14½	14½
Nike B	75½	75
NL Industries	11½	11½
Noram Energy	5½	5½
Nordstrom	36½	37
Norfolk Sthrn	65½	64½
Nthn State Pwr	43½	42½
Norwest Corp	25½	25½
Nynex Corp	39½	38½
Occidental Pet	20½	20½
Ohio Edison	19½	19½
Oracle Systems	33	32½
Oryx Energy Co	11½	11½
Owens Corning	33½	32½
PPG Industries	35½	35½
PNC Bank	24½	24½
Paccar Inc	42½	43
Pacificorp	18½	18½
Pac Enterprises	24½	24½
Pac Gas & Elect	24½	24½
Pac Telesis	29½	29½
Pall Corp	20½	20½
Panhandle Eas	22½	22½
Parker Hannifin	44½	44½
Peco Energy	25½	25½
Penney (JC)	43½	42½
Pennzoil	48½	47½
Pepsico	39½	38½
Pfizer	82½	82½
Phelps Dodge	53½	53½
Philip Morris	63½	63½
Phillips Pet	35½	35½
Pitney Bowes	35½	35½
Polaroid	32½	32
PriceCostco	13	12½
Procter & Gmbl	66½	66
Providian	34½	34½
Pub Serv E & G	27½	27½
Quaker Oats	32½	32½
Ralston Purina	48½	48½
Raychem Corp	39½	39½
Raytheon	70½	68½
Reebok Intl	35½	34½
Reynolds Metals	49½	47½
Roadway Srvcs	49½	50
Rockwell Intl	39½	39½
Rohm & Haas	54½	53½
Royal Dutch	115½	115½
Rubbermaid	33½	32½
Safeco Corp	54½	54½
St Paul's Cos	49½	48½
Salomon Inc	32½	32½
Santa Fe Pac	22½	11½
Sara Lee Corp	25½	25½
Seecorp	15½	15½
Schering Plough	77½	76½
Schlumberger	57½	57½
Scott Paper	84½	83½
Seagram	30½	30½
Sears Roebuck	50½	50½
Shell Trans	68½	68½
Sherwin Wlms	33½	33½
Skyline Corp	18½	18½
Snap-On-Tools	34½	33½
Southern Co	19½	19½
Sthwestern Bell	40½	40½
Sprint Corp	28½	27½
Stanley Works	39½	39½
Sun Company	28½	28
Sun Microsys	32½	32½
Suntrust	53½	52½
Supervalu	26½	26½
Sysco Corp	28	28
TRW Inc	69½	66
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	16½	16½
Tandy Corp	45½	45½
Teledyne	22½	22½
Temple Inland	47½	46½
Tenneco	44½	44½
Texaco	65½	65
Texas Inst	85½	82½
Texas Utilities	31½	31½
Textron	54½	53½
Time Warner	38½	38½
Times-Mirror A	17½	17½
Timken	34	33½
Torchmark	41½	40½
Toys R Us	24½	24½
Transamerica	54½	54½
Travelers	37½	36½
Tribune	54½	54½
Tyco Labs	53½	52½
UST Inc	29½	29½
UAL	91½	91½
USX Marathon	17½	17½
Unicom	24½	24½
Unilever NV	129½	128
Union Camp	49½	49½
Union Carbide	27½	27
Union Pacific	51½	50½
Unisys Corp	8½	8½
USAir Group	5½	5½
USF&G Corp	13½	13½
US Life	36½	36½
US West	40	38½
United Tech	65½	65½
Unocal Corp	28½	28
Upjohn	35½	34½
VF Corp	50	49½
WMX Tech	26½	26½
Wal-Mart Stores	24½	24½
Warner-Lambert	75½	75½
Wells Fargo	158½	156½
Westinghouse El	14½	14½
Weyerhaeuser	39½	39
Whirlpool	52	51½
Whitman	17½	17½
Winn Dixie	55½	55½
Woolworth	15½	15½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44½	44
Xerox	111½	110½
Yellow Corp	17½	17½

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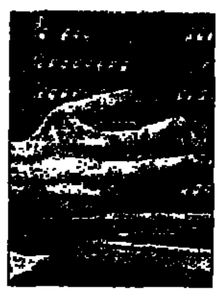
POWER SHOCK 28

Are privatisation shares still a popular bet?

WEEKEND MONEY

MONEY GUIDE

Hints on good management and saving tax



Sara McConnell and **Morag Preston** report on a dilemma over how a church's legacy should best be invested

Saving for the church's very fabric

Prayers do not patch cracks in church walls, and clergymen are not always blessed with business acumen. So when a church in need of funds is left a generous sum of money, where is the best place to invest the windfall and who is the best person to decide?

John James, treasurer of Tilney All Saints' Church, near King's Lynn, Norfolk, heard just after he was appointed that £100,000 had been bequeathed to the church. Eric Emmerson, a former bell captain, left 91 per cent of his estate to the church at the end of last year. He stipulated that £10,000 should be spent immediately, divided equally between repair work on the bell tower and general maintenance. The remainder was to be invested.

"I'm just an ignorant layman," says Mr James. "I have a moral duty of care to the church, the trust, and to the future. These are very sensitive areas, so I don't want to offend anyone. I know enough to appreciate that I need advice — I just don't know where to find it."

The church, made of Northamptonshire Barnack ragstone, was built in phases from the 11th century. The most extensive alterations took place in the 15th century, after the substitution of a hammer beam roof decorated with carved figures. But the 145-foot-long church moves in the Norfolk wind, its walls are collapsing outwards with cracks up to an inch wide.

"It all hangs together and we can keep mending it, but too much meddling is a bad thing," says Mr James. "The church is stable, but within 20 years, substantial work will need to be done. We need to generate sufficient income should any problems arise." The church would cost £7.5 million to build today, and costs £4,500 a year to insure.

For now, the legacy is being held in an interest-bearing account by the solicitor acting as executor. There it will remain until the managing trustees, Tilney All Saints' vicar and parochial council, decide how the guardian trustees, Ely Board of Finance, should invest the money. The central board of finance (CBF) of the Church of England provides a service to look after funds. But Mr James is reluctant to use its investment fund.

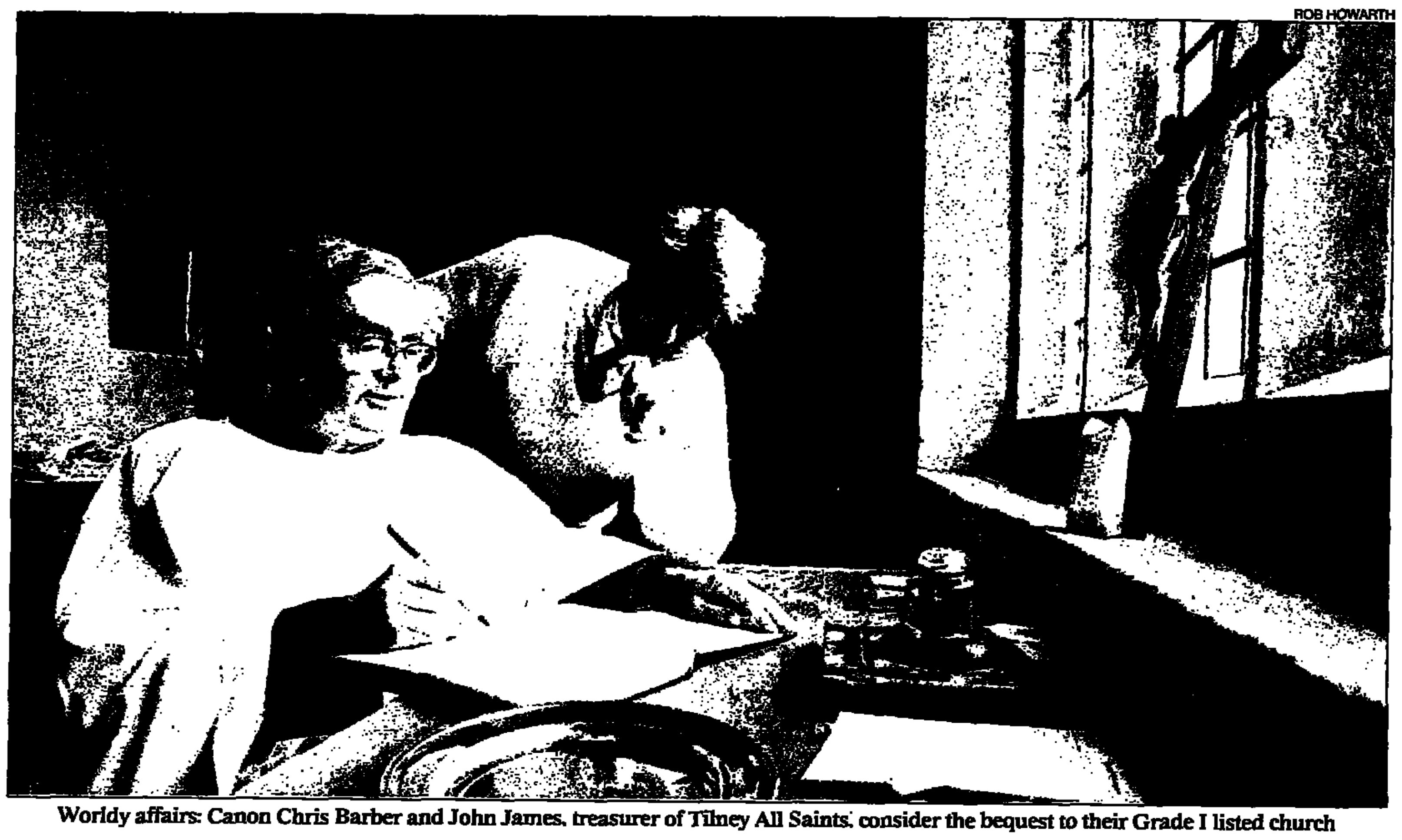
"The CBF is safe and accessible, like grey porridge, but I don't think it is the best investment for a charitable fund," says Mr James, who hopes the legacy will be worth £750,000 within 20 years. "Why is CBF's performance so poor, and why is it measured against the retail prices index? A pension fund would have done so much better."

According to Viscount Churchill, investment manager at CBF: "Our investment fund looks for capital growth and income. Both are protected against inflation and, with over 300 holdings, we have a more diversified portfolio than the average unit trust. This makes us a more secure choice." The WM Company, an independent performance measurement service for charities, recorded a total return of 14.8 per cent per annum between 1985 and 1993 for the CBF Investment Fund. The Charities Official Investment Fund, which carries ethical restrictions, recorded a 16.4 per cent return. All 211 charities gave a return of 15.3 per cent.

Canon Chris Barber, the church's vicar, is as confused as his treasurer: "An advisory body needs to be set up that offers impartial advice, but is sympathetic to our purpose. A lot of people are telling us what we can't do, so we need to know the parameter of our powers. We must be protected against ourselves." So far, the treasurer has considered investing in more gilts and the M&G Charibond Charities.

Tilney All Saints' Church is a Grade I listed building. The congregation of 20 on a Sunday, 400 villagers and countless tourists hope the building will remain standing. "It's a lovely old church, and we have the time as well as the money to preserve it," says Canon Barber. "We are only a little trust at the moment, but there are a lot like us around."

ROB HOWARTH



Worldy affairs: Canon Chris Barber and John James, treasurer of Tilney All Saints, consider the bequest to their Grade I listed church

How the experts say trustees should invest

CHRIS WICKS, of King Street Financial Services, Manchester, says Mr James and his fellow trustees should first check out the trust-deed provisions. The trustees will only be able to choose how to invest the £90,000 if the deed gives them "wider powers of investment", otherwise the Trustee Investments Act 1961 applies. This Act comes into effect if the trustees want to do anything more risky than put the money on deposit. The money will have to be divided into a "narrower" range of investments and a "wider" range. The narrower range includes bank deposits, government stocks, local authority bonds and other fixed-interest securities. The wider range includes UK equities and shares in collective investments, such as unit trusts. The trustees also have to take professional investment advice. If the trustees do find they have wider powers, they still have certain duties, including prudent investment and giving the trust a spread of risk. They also have to make sure their moral views do not cloud their duty to get the best possible return on the money, otherwise they could be in breach of trust. Mr Wicks says: "The performance on some ethical funds could not be described as getting the best possible return." He recommends that between a quarter and a third could be kept on deposit in a building society for emergencies. A further 25-30 per cent could be invested in gilts, which give a steady fixed income with no tax, and the rest could be invested in equities. The trustees should also consider tax-exempt unit trusts.

MARK BOLLAND, of Chamberlain de Broē, London, believes the trustees should put their money into three separate pots — cash for emergencies, or unforeseen needs; low-risk fixed-interest investments, such as gilts, to generate regular income (although there is the risk of capital loss as well as the possibility of capital gain) and equities, mainly for growth. He suggests about 20 per cent should be held in cash. "They need some liquidity. They could put it into a term account at the building society". A further 20 per cent could go into gilts. Like Mr Wicks, he points out that tax-exempt trusts do well out of gilts because they can get the full benefit of a gross yield. Gilt yields look good at the moment compared with other types of investment — 8½ per cent 2005 Treasury for example. Income from gilts is paid automatically. But even if the trustees do not need the income, they will have the option of reinvesting it in gilts or elsewhere, or putting it on deposit if an expense is coming up. The remainder of the portfolio could be invested in equities, both UK and overseas. "Holding all the money in the UK is a very risky approach. They need some overseas exposure, although they could concentrate more on the home markets. Investing in the UK has the advantage that there is no currency loss and UK equities generally have higher yields than their foreign counterparts. The trustees should go for unit trusts or investment trusts, which would give them a wider spread of risk more efficiently than investing in individual stocks."

Pep providers wait for guidelines

Rules on corporate-bond Peps still have to be finalised, **Liz Dolan** says

There is still no sign of the long-awaited government guidelines about what will, and will not, be acceptable for inclusion in corporate-bond Peps.

The image of the new-style Peps has been dented even before their launch by the collapse of Barings and the losses facing some of its bondholders. Now, the absence of clear guidelines looks like creating further delays.

In theory, the definitive rules should have been published by now, giving time for Pep providers to devise suitable products for launch after April 6.

Representatives of the Inland Revenue and the Treasury were said yesterday to be thrashing out the finer points. Some expect to hear the result of their deliberations early next week. Others remain sceptical. One Pep provider said: "We had expected the Revenue to make some sort of an announcement on Thursday, but nothing happened. To be honest, they are beginning to give the distinct impression that they are in no hurry over this one. They'll do it in their own time."

Unresolved questions include: will the Government change its mind and allow the inclusion of eurobonds in the new Peps; and, what will be the minimum corporate bond holding? When Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, announced in the November Budget the extension to Pep rules to include fixed-interest bonds, he cited corporate bonds, convertibles and preference shares. He appeared to rule out eurobonds.

The industry promptly pointed out that, if that were the case, many of the bluest chips would be excluded from corporate-bond Peps because they had used the Euro-sterling route when raising new money. Mike Ryder Richardson, of Save & Prosper, says: "Without them, the market would be exceptionally narrow. It would double, if they were included. It's vital in terms of both quality and diversification." Paul Ashby, of Barclays Unicorn, says: "We are concerned that, if Euro-sterling issues are banned, there will be a huge wall of money from relatively low-risk investors chasing a ridiculously narrow market. Polly Peck had loan stock, remember. And what about Barings's preference shares?"

Under the rules governing equity Peps, managers have to include a minimum of 50 per cent qualifying equities, after which they can diversify into other areas. They are hoping for similar rules for corporate-bond Peps.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Spooked by politics

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

ANTHONY HARRIS

The strength of sterling and London stocks is something of a mystery. They are down, of course; but why are they not down further? In normal times, the events of the last fortnight — Barings, the polls, the electricity affair, open US contempt for British views — ought to be enough to provoke a full-blown crisis.

Currency turmoil is never good for the pound, but that is only the start. The Bank of England no longer looks like a safe pair of hands. Public opinion is increasingly anti-business, while the Government finds new ways of alienating voters almost every day. It now looks well past its sell-by date; and even the economic recovery seems to be petering out.

An insular view, a forbidding scene for the investor; but now try a global view. You are a fund manager seeking to diversify: what looks better? The emerging markets post-Mexico? The incredible sinking dollar? Or the overvalued currencies? France, forced to squeeze a depressed economy, and heading for an election? Japan, where the unprecedented slanging match between the Government and the central bank says "Crisis" in neon lights? The fiscally challenged Scandinavian economies? Italy? Russia? Do be serious. No wonder that Britain looks no worse than average, or that Germany, overvalued mark and all, is everyone's choice as the better hole.

Look through that list again, and you will notice a common factor: politics. Even the dollar decline was set off when Alan Greenspan, beset by political sniping, talked of possible rate cuts, and when the constitutional amendment to balance the budget was defeated in Congress. This proposal always was a fraud, because US fiscal arithmetic comes in an easy-cook pack; but its defeat exposes the fact that the new Republican regime, bent on higher defence spending and a massive prison-building programme, never did look likely to make much of a dent in the problem.

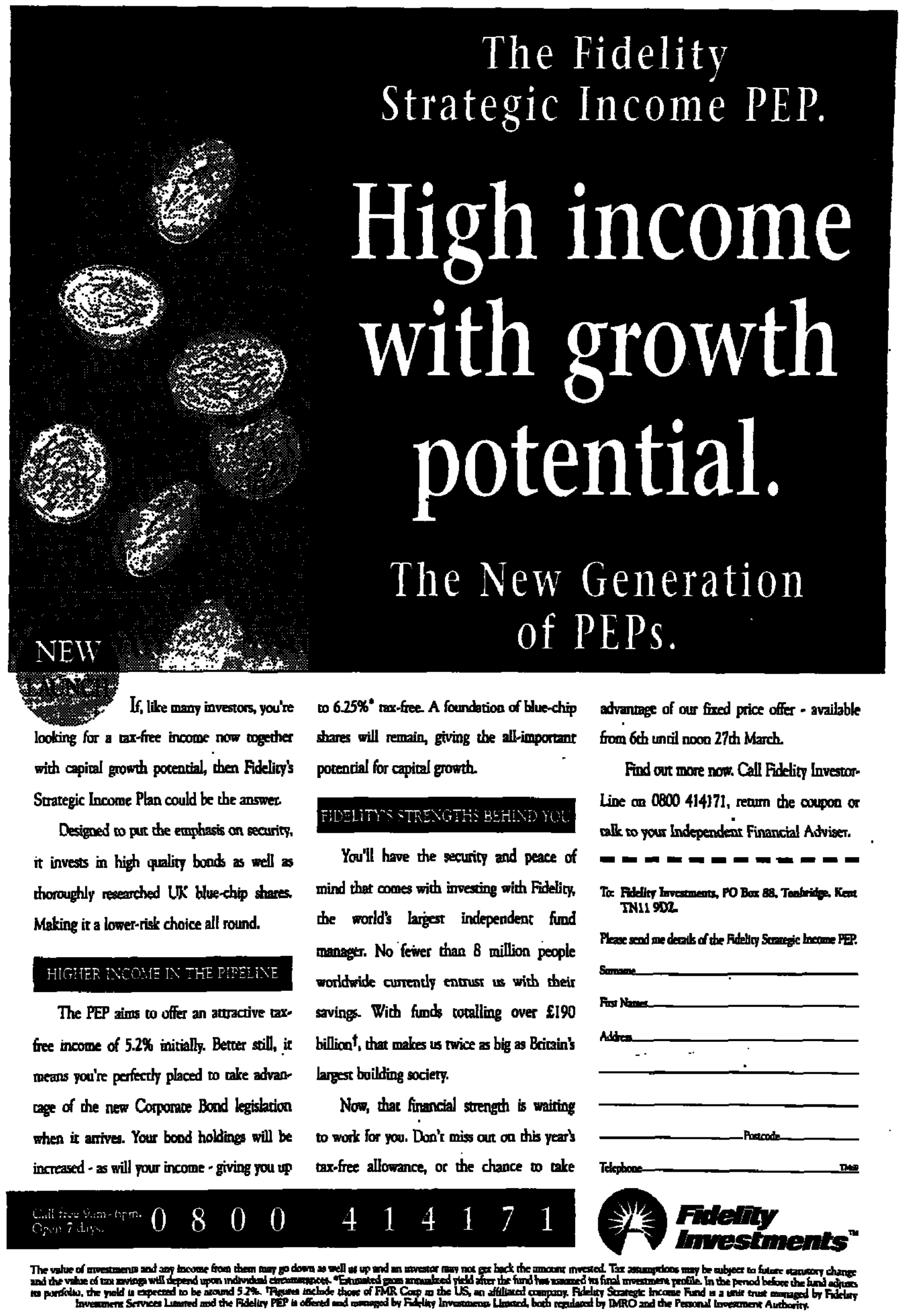
Meanwhile, the celebrations of a soft landing for the US economy now look premature. It could still be a boom-slump outlook; and inflation will probably reappear on the worry list next month.

All the same, the US looks like a haven compared with much of Europe. The reason is everywhere the same: an ageing population. That is why even a Socialist Government in Greece has had to use teargas on pensioners. The prospective costs of pensions and healthcare can be met only by measures that are politically near impossible. That is why so many governments are so unpopular. Political uncertainty, which spooks markets, begins to look like the European way of life.

Italy is, of course, the basket case. Its problems of debt and deficit might, just, have been soluble had the Berlusconi Government, elected to do the difficult things, survived. But the problem facing Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister, is now worse: the lira collapse and rising interest rates mean that the deficit grows as fast as fiscal action can cut it. Yet failure could mean hyperinflation, (which is the way governments declare bankruptcy).

This is the Italy of German nightmares; no wonder the ERM, which depends on German support, is in crisis. Yet in the longer run, Germany will suffer most of all if siege policies undermine the economies of its closest partners.

Now look homeward again, and it all looks rather different. A Chinese proverb sums it up: "I had no shoes, and I wept — until I met a man who had no feet." Our population may be ageing, but not nearly as fast as those across the Channel. Our budget may be in deficit, but it is a small and manageable one. Growth may be slowing, but what there is is export-led. And our Government may be moribund; but for the investor, that is the best news of all. This is now a political market, and history teaches one rule: buy on a Labour victory.



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After the currency crisis

Robert Miller

looks at what currency funds can offer the private investor

SIMON WALKER

The jitters on the foreign exchanges underline the unpredictable ways of the currency markets

Currency markets move in mysterious and unpredictable ways as this week's antics on the world's foreign exchanges have demonstrated.

An injudicious comment by a politician or a central banker is a clarion call for currency speculators to move in.

If the big guns, often led by George Soros and his Quantum Fund (remember Black Wednesday and Britain's exit from the ERM?) can make millions by speculating, why can't private investors do the same, albeit on a more modest basis?

The latest bout of jitters, which on Wednesday saw the US dollar plunge to its lowest ever level against the German mark was, in large part, started by a comment from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the US Federal Reserve.

Two weeks ago, he hinted that US interest rates might be cut later this year. US rates have been rising steadily over the past year to control inflationary pressures in the domestic economy.

Mr Greenspan said this week he was "startled" by the flight from the dollar into the mark and the yen. He added that the weakness of the US dollar against other major currencies was "both unwelcome and troublesome". His concerns over the US economy should be noted by all who follow the currency markets.

The weak dollar, he said, was symptomatic of longer-term worries over a budget deficit of nearly £120 billion, a persistent trade deficit and inadequate national savings. The backlash hit other currencies. Those that suffered from concerns on domestic problems, both economic and political, included sterling, the Spanish peseta, the French franc and the Italian lira. France (high unemployment, budget deficit and presidential elections) and Belgium (large budget deficit) immediately raised short-term interest rates.

For private investors, keeping track of currencies outside the main block of the dollar, yen, mark and, to a lesser extent, sterling, is almost impossible. The most sensible way to gain access to the markets is through one of the handful of offshore-based single currency funds such as those offered by Fidelity, Guinness Flight, NM Rothschild and Hill Samuel. These invest in bank deposits of the different countries where the money earns interest.

They do not punt on the foreign exchanges, but the interest you earn in any particular country is dependent on how that particular currency is faring on the foreign exchanges. Some require minimum deposits of about £20,000 in each currency.

Charges should be low, typically about 1 per cent a year. You should also look for at least three of four free switches between currencies if you need them. But the safety of the money is only as good as that country's banking system.

As Peter Knight, Fidelity's currency manager, points out, currency funds can be useful for higher rate taxpayers nearing retirement who want to roll up income gross until they retire and become lower rate taxpayers. Once the money is brought into the UK, you have to tell the Inland Revenue. Similarly, if you earn money from overseas sources, you can pay it into a single currency fund and convert it into sterling later. If you are lucky, you make a return on the currency as well as earning interest.

Currency funds have a role to play in financial planning, but speculation should only be with money you can afford to write off. Mr Soros lost hundreds of millions of dollars last year speculating on the yen.

City offered taste of smaller companies

TRUST WATCH

Natwest Securities began sounding out City institutions this week on their appetite for a new smaller companies investment trust. If this is successful, then private investors will be able to participate at a later date.

The NatWest FT-SE Indices Investment Trust will track the FT-SE Small Cap index and the new FT-SE A Fledgling index. The trust will have two new classes of share, with the S shares tracking the Small Cap index and the F shares the Fledgling index. But the investment trusts already listed in the indices will be stripped out for tracking purposes.

Foreign & Colonial's Utilities Investment Trust is another manager looking for funds. The trust, which was launched in August 1993, wants to raise a further £60 million by issuing special S (separate) shares, not to be confused with NatWest's S (Small cap) shares.

The minimum investment is £2,000 and there is one free warrant for every five shares applied for. The new class of F&C's shares and warrants will trade separately from the existing shares of the trust and the extra funds will be mainly invested in utility stocks outside the UK.

Maintaining the unit trust sector's new launches this week is Kleinwort Benson. Its Global Equity Trust will use what is known as "quantative" investment management techniques to "manage risk and enhance returns" from a portfolio of equities from all the world's leading investment regions.

The spread of investments will be managed so that the trust retains full Pep status, with at least half of its investments held in UK or European shares.

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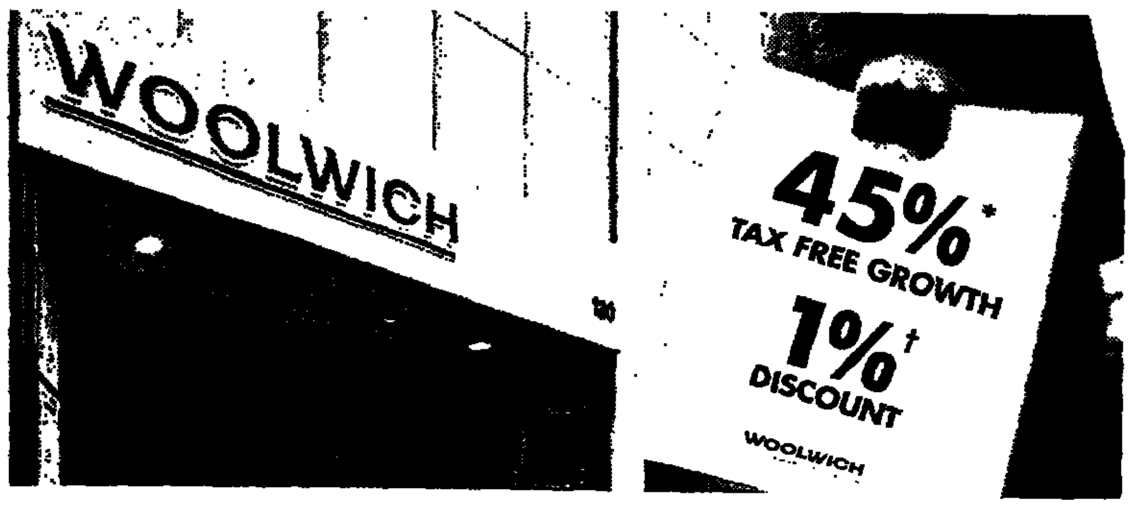

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Societies attempt to spread a little happiness

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Being able to learn by your own mistakes is a *useful* attribute, possessed by few politicians and certainly not by Eric Cantona. Learning by other people's mistakes may be easier, or so the Halifax and the Leeds seem to be proving in their well considered progress towards merger and the stock market.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester, whose own search for a new identity as a Lloyds Bank subsidiary has been a stormy affair, is serving as anti-role model.

Many of the C&G's problems are not of *its own* making and can be blamed on the inconsistencies of the Building Societies Act. But the Halifax and the Leeds have seen how C&G customers were aggrieved by early promises of bonuses that will not now be universally available. They have noted the ire of those disqualified by technicalities.

Mindful that the mood of customers can suddenly turn ugly, *the Halifax and the* Leeds were careful not to mention money when announcing their free share handout this week. Anxious not to raise false hopes, the societies said that they were going to court to establish whether borrowers and savers *of less than* two years' standing can legally be awarded shares.

Observers believe that the action stands a reasonable chance of success. The section of the Act being tested does not allude to borrowers and only specifies that savers of more than two years' standing should enjoy priority, rather than exclusivity in a share distribution. But even if Halifax and the Leeds fail in their attempt to spread a little happiness among all their ten million customers, they will be held to have tried. Meanwhile, savers will be kept in a state of delicious anticipation, dreaming how much they will receive. They will also be loath to withdraw their cash for fear of reducing their free share entitlement.

The Halifax and Leeds deal, in all its conciliatory splendour, *is now being held* up as an example of going public the right way. As the vote on the Lloyds takeover approaches, the C&G must be hoping it does not further fuel the ire of its dissidents.

Split pensions

WHITEHALL insiders say the Department of Social Security wants pensions to be split on divorce. The Lord Chancellor's Department, however, prefers a system whereby retired husbands would pay pensions to their former wives. If the gossip is true, then the Lord Chancellor has prevailed in the wrangle over the handling of pension assets on divorce. Next Tuesday, the Lords will debate an amendment to the Pensions Bill, obliging the courts to take the value of the husband's pension into account, but delaying the payment of the wife's share until her former spouse reaches superannuation.

This arrangement would seem only to prolong the agony, despite a sensible further amendment to the amendment being brought by Baroness Hollis, the Labour peer, requiring that pension schemes be responsible for paying pensions to their members' ex-wives. The concept of the clean break should guide ministers in their further deliberations on this subject.

Clearing up: will public-sector workers miss out when they transfer to the private sector?

Liz Dolan looks at the transfer rights of state employees

Civil servants in fear over pensions sell-out

The transfer from the public to the private sector of nearly 1,000 *Atomic Energy Authority* staff, announced this week, highlights the changes facing an increasing number of civil servants and other state employees.

Public-sector workers may find they are actually better off on the other side of the fence, *as Cedric Brown, of British* Gas, would no doubt agree. The Government is not known for fat-cat salaries, plush working conditions or even, nowadays, job security. But, whatever may be gained in other ways, most private sector workers still envy the *pension package offered to* state counterparts.

Workers transferring to private employers are covered by the 1981 European Union directive known as the Transfer of Undertakings, Protection of Employees directive, or TIPU for short.

Under TIPU, staff transferred en bloc to a new employer must be offered "broadly comparable" conditions of employment to those previously enjoyed.

Government employees get inflation-proofed pensions. The size of the pension de*pends on a combination of* years worked and final salary before retirement. Most "broadly comparable" private sector schemes are, at best, index-linked only up to a maximum 5 per cent a year. But public-sector schemes tend to offer lower death-in-service and long-term sickness benefits.

Shirley Maidin, UKAEAT pensions manager, says the workers joining the private sector will get the same pension, but a bigger lump sum. In-service benefits are better, but indexation is capped at 5 per cent.

All pension schemes offered *to transferring employees* must be approved by the Government Actuaries Department (GAD). Unison, the public employees union, is concerned about the way the GAD interprets the term "broadly comparable". It says it is impossible to assess the *relative value of two different* schemes without making a subjective judgment. "Just because a scheme is of the same financial value does not mean it is as good. GAD says if, for instance, people get higher death-in-service benefits, they are kind of compensated for loss of index-linking. But if you don't die in service — and most people don't — it doesn't matter how high the death-in-service benefits are."

> ❛ We see that as the thin end of a pretty dangerous wedge ❜

Benefits such as generous early retirement provisions and index-linking, offered by government schemes, are much more important to the majority of pension fund members than better death-in-service benefits and lower contribution levels, the union says.

Brian Freake, national pensions officer, MSF union, says the private sector is over-wary of inflation-proofing. "You have to remember investment returns are often greater at times of high inflation. I think the real worry with some employers is that they are less likely to be able to take a *contributions holiday when* investment rates are high if the fund is index-linked."

Unison and the GMB union both cite cases where staff have been offered no pension rights at all. Part-time and low-paid employees are particularly vulnerable. BET, the *building services company* that successfully tenders for a number of government contracts, is being taken to court by GMB because its benefits package does not apply to staff earning less than £15,000 a year. "So much for the Government's claim that it com*plies with the European Union* acquired rights directive," says Bill Day, national pensions officer.

In other cases, while broadly equivalent benefits may be brought in for existing employees, new employees may get a less generous scheme, he *says*.

Mr Day is also concerned about plans to move the management of public-sector pension funds into private hands. At the moment, private involvement would be limited to the administration of the fund, but: "We see that as the thin *end of a pretty dangerous* wedge."

■ To save time and money for people tendering for government contracts, a "passport" system has been devised, under which insurance companies seek GAD approval for standardised pensions benefits schemes. Once approved, these schemes can be included in the tender package. Legal & General and Friends Provident are two of very few insurers to have won GAD approval in this way.

National scheme proposed

Proposals for a new privately managed, national pension scheme are being considered by the National Association of Pension Funds. The proposed body would look after the state earnings-related pension scheme and personal pension plans. It would provide pensions for all self-employed people, plus employees not in *occupational schemes*.

A compulsory 10 per cent deduction would be made from their income and paid into the new national fund. They would then receive an inflation-linked pension based on 50 per cent of their average lifetime earnings.

The plan is to be put before the Anson inquiry into retirement income next week. Michael Elton, NAPF director-general, said: "It's not official NAPF policy, but we decided to go ahead because of the short timespan. We are about to ask members to comment on the proposals, then it all has to be considered by a meeting of the council."

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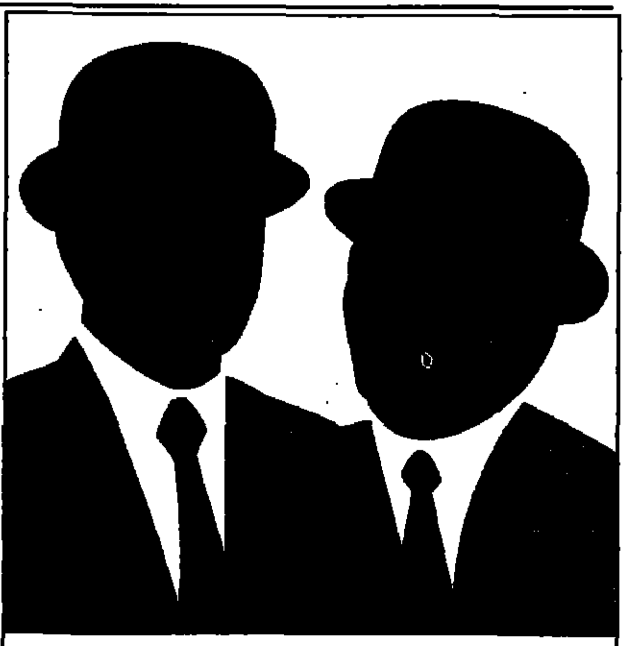

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Shock to system for power investors

Jill Insley looks at the advantages and disadvantages of holding privatisation stocks in the wake of the electricity regulator's price-capping announcement

More than one million private investors in PowerGen and National Power (NP) had their hopes of making a large, quick profit dashed this week.

Shares in the two generating companies plummeted after Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, revealed plans for new caps on the cost *of electricity on* Tuesday. The part-paid shares in PowerGen and NP, which started trading on Monday, fell 9p and 10p respectively, wiping out much of the paper profit made by their new owners.

The regional electricity distribution *companies* — the subject of new controls — were hit even harder. The news caused the Trafalgar House bid for Northern Electric to lapse.

However, the hardest knock of all is probably that delivered to the private investor's faith in the Government's privatisation programme. Until now, the new privatisation had been seen as a source of *quick and easy profit for those* who can afford to buy shares.

But this week, private and institutional investors alike were standing back to consider *what action they should* take on existing shareholdings and the implications for further investment. Most, if not all, who invested their money as the former state-owned companies entered the private sector have ended up earning *healthy profits, even after this* week's traumas. Privatisation issues have been considered the nearest thing to a sure bet.

To start with, most of the big *privatised companies* began private-sector life as near monopolies in their markets, giving them enormous economic power over consumers. Although regulators have imposed price controls, they have been slow to realise the scope for efficiency improvements.

Exposed to commercial pressures, the privatised companies reorganised, usually with thousands of job losses. The *savings produced helped* to feed large dividend rises and share price increases. Added to this, the Government sold the companies at what have generally been knockdown prices. The potential for profits attracted a £1.2 billion takeover bid for Northern Electric by Trafalgar House. *Not only did Northern's share* price rise by about 150p, but the bid sent the share prices of *other utilities soaring.* Northern's desperate attempt to escape from the clutches of Trafalgar House — by repaying its shareholders £560 mil*lion and loading the company* with debt — alerted Professor Littlechild to the need for a review of price controls.

TREVOR SMITH, private client director of Waters Lunniss, the East Anglian *stockbroker, says:* "Private investors have done immensely well, you've only got to look at any one of the privatisations. People who stagged thought *they had done terribly well,* but then the stock market took over and the shares went onwards and upwards. Even the regional electricity companies have made huge profits for investors, even after the last few days." But Professor *Littlechild's* pronouncements have alerted the market to the threat of increasing regula*tion. If his actions can slash* share prices and threaten future dividends, then what is to stop the regulators of other privatised industries taking *similar measures?*

> ❛ If *this* can happen under the Tories, what would happen under a Labour government? ❜

Mr Smith says: "Excess profits are dirty words among regulators. Once you see they can do this, you have to worry about if they will do it. And if this can happen under a Tory Government, what would happen under a Labour government?"

He believes the uncertainty about what Professor Littlechild and other regulators may do will deter potential takeovers *and depress share prices.* "No company can say it is going to take a utility over because it doesn't know what it's buying now. The premium for being taken over *has come back out of* the share price. The temptation as an investor is to take the profits now and sell out."

RICHARD TWYDELL, marketing manager of Henderson Crosthwaite, the stock*broker, is himself an investor* in PowerGen and NP. He says that the value of the generators has been tainted by market sentiment. "As the saying goes, a *long-term investment* is a short-term investment which went wrong. The answer is probably to hang on in there," he says.

MATTHEW ORR, a partner Killik & Co, the stockbroker, believes that a change to a Labour government in two years' time would not result in the renationalisation of companies. However, he says a *Labour government could in*troduce legislation that favours the cause of the consumer rather than that of the shareholder in companies producing extra large profits.

Killik & Co (see table) believes shareholders should reduce their *holdings in the* water and electricity distribution companies, but thinks there are good opportunities for profits in other companies.

JED O'MARA, investment strategist for Pointon York, the *pensions specialist, is advising investors to get into privatisations* through two investment trusts set up specifically to buy shares from *European privatisations. In*vesting through an investment trust allows an investor to spread his money over a much wider number of shares than *his savings would normally* allow. And these trusts, managed by Kleinwort Benson and Mercury, represent good value at the moment.

Both *trusts* fell *in* value immediately after launch last year, discouraging many inexperienced investors. *But de*spite a poor stock market *performance* that, in turn, delayed plans for several European privatisations and reduced profits from those privatisations that took place, Mr O'Mara thinks the trusts have performed reasonably.

Both trusts are selling at large "*discounts to the net* asset values". Investors who buy shares at such large discounts can benefit either through the share price rising *to meet the net asset value as* demand for the trust grows, or from the profits realised from the trust's assets when it is finally wound up. Kleinwort *Benson's European privatisa*tion trust is trading at a discount of 17.8 per cent, and Mercury's at 17.

The trusts are not for those *investors who want to stick to* the few remaining UK privatisations. But they are an easy way to invest for someone who wants to take advantage of the forthcoming European programme.

Although Kleinwort was an adviser to the Government on *selling its final stake in* PowerGen and NP, its European privatisation trust has suffered along with everyone else.

MURRAY DAVEY, *the* trust's manager, says its biggest sector holding was in generating companies and regional electricity companies. "The *regulator has changed* the rules of the game and it is effectively impossible to value these companies. The shares will go zooming up and down *in value without any funda*mental reason behind it. This is extremely bad news for the investor, the companies and their employees. I'm certainly one of the many unhappy investors."

Privatisation: heyday of the Eighties. Will the Nineties tell a different story?

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PowerGen	100+75	1.75	461½	Buy
Anglian Water	*100+70+70*	2.40	465½	Reduce
North West	100+70+70	2.40	509	Reduce
Northumbrian	100+70+70	2.40	619	Reduce
Severn Trust	100+70+70	2.40	494	Reduce
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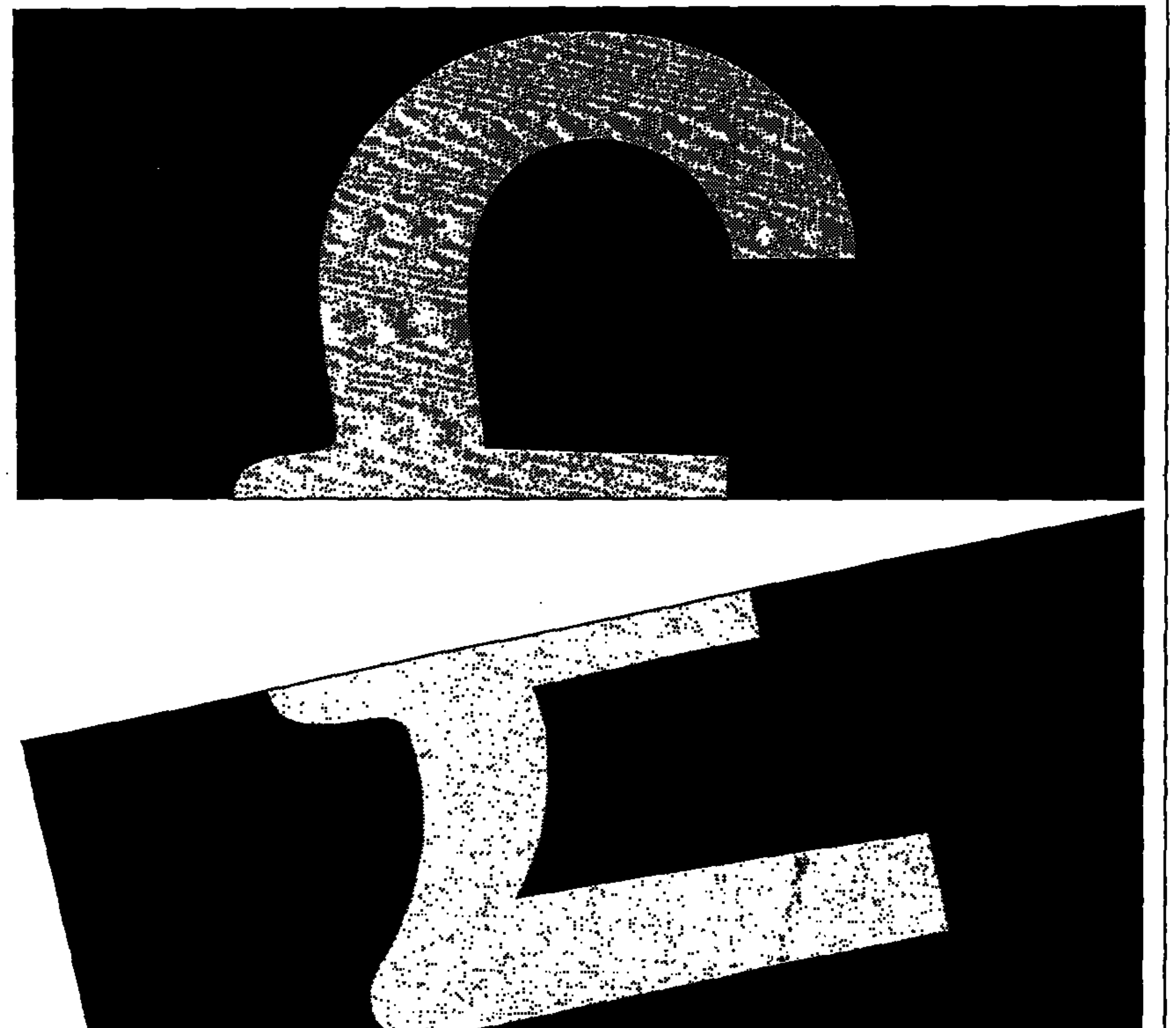

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Helen Pridham reports on how marrying again can hit the pensions of widows and divorced women

When love and marriage add up to no cash

Widows who remarry as well as divorcées could suffer and lose the benefit of their former partner's pension provision.

The Pension Bill, now in the Lords, is considering how women should be given a fair share of their husband's pension entitlement on divorce.

But it is not just divorce that can have implications for a woman's entitlement to her previous husband's pension provision. On remarriage, widows, as well as divorcées, could find their pension positions changed, with state pension benefits as well as pensions from a husband's employment affected.

A divorced woman's entitlement to a state pension may be hard hit by remarriage if, like many women who started work before April 1977, she opted to pay reduced rate National Insurance contributions during her married life. Any credits she received from her previous husband's NI contributions will disappear.

For Chris Loud and his previously married partner from Weston-super-Mare, the potential impact of their proposed marriage on her state pension entitlement came as a shock. He explains: "My partner decided to pay reduced rate National Insurance contributions during her marriage on the basis that she and her ex-husband would receive a married couple's state pension anyway on retirement, plus the fact that her then-husband was a member of an occupational pension scheme."

On her divorce, after 24 years of marriage, she was told by the Department of Social Services that the credits from her former husband's NI contributions, together with her own contributions made since the divorce, provided they were continued until her anticipated retirement date, would entitle her to an almost full single person's pension.

Mr Loud says: "It also came to light that if she remarries as intended, then the slate is wiped clean of her former husband's contributions and her only entitlement is based on contributions paid since divorce, which would amount to an almost non-existent pension."

Although Mr Loud can also claim a married couple's pension on their behalf if they marry, he can do so only when he starts drawing a state pension at 65. Since he is 15 years younger than his partner, she will be 80 before any extra pension is paid. For the time being, the couple's plans to marry have been put on ice while they reconsider their position.

When asked about the case, a DSS spokeswoman suggested: "Their best bet is to postpone the wedding until she [Mr Loud's partner] has reached 60, then her state pension position will not be affected by her remarriage." But this means the couple will have to wait another 11 years.

The DSS points out that such problems will gradually disappear because more women will have pensions in their own right in future.

Since 1977, women entering or re-entering the workforce have had to pay full NI contributions. Nevertheless, there are still about half a million women paying reduced contributions, and more who may have done so in the past but subsequently divorced.

According to the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF), remarrying poses great problems for widows, particularly those of former public-sector employees.

Mike Brown, of the NAPF, says: "Our research shows that 79 per cent of public sector pension schemes will cease to pay a widow's pension if a woman remarries. Only 21 per cent of these schemes will continue to pay the pension on remarriage."

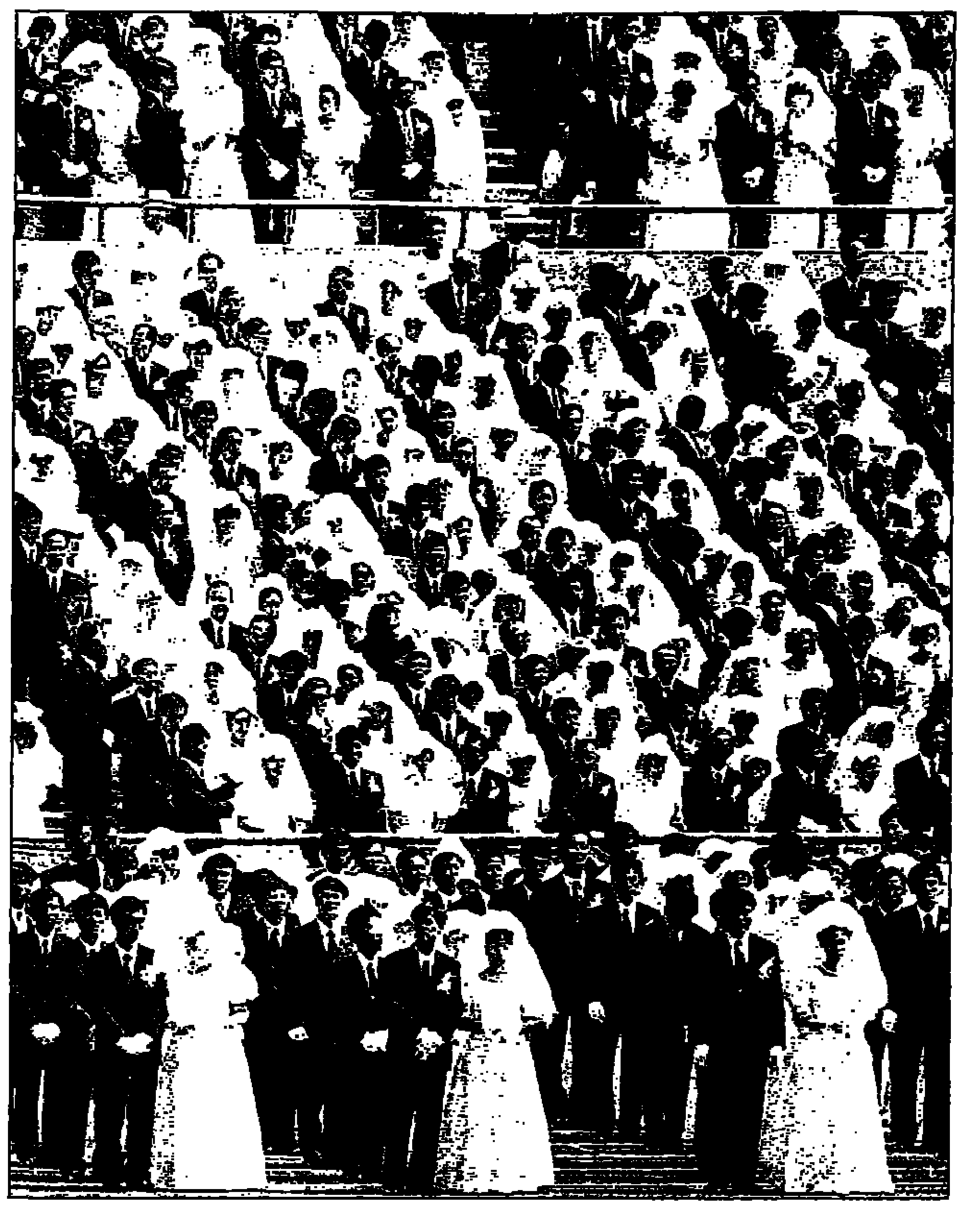
He gives a warning that couples who may consider living together instead so that the widow can continue to receive the pension need to be careful. "Some public-sector schemes will also stop paying a pension if they find out that the widow is cohabiting," he says.

In the private sector, schemes tend to be more generous — only 7 per cent of schemes stop a widow's pension on remarriage, 88 per cent continue paying for life regardless of the widow's subsequent status, 2 per cent stop if remarriage occurs before the widow's sixtieth birthday, while 3 per cent of schemes review each case on its merits.

For widows of men who had personal pension or retirement annuity plans, the position is even more clear-cut.

Ron Spill, pensions expert at Legal & General, explains "If the man dies before retirement, the widow will normally receive a lump sum equivalent to the value of the accumulated pension fund. If he dies after retirement — providing he has opted for a joint annuity and not all men do — then she will receive a pension for life. Remarriage will have no effect in either situation."

These variations emphasise, yet again, how important it is for women of all ages to consider their pension position very carefully before contemplating either marriage or divorce.



Serial brides: on remarriage, thousands may find they lose out on pensions

Why an officer cannot always be a gentleman

A MAN who marries or remarries after retirement may also face problems ensuring that his wife is provided for after his death. One group fighting particularly hard for better treatment of their widows is the Officers' Pension Society.

At present, widows of servicemen who married their partners after they left the force receive no occupational pension at all, unless their partner retired after 1978. And even if the husband was still serving on or after April 6, 1978, the widow's pension is calculated only on the length of service after that date.

As most servicemen retire earlier than members of other professions, some as early as 40, the Officers' Pension Society says this rule is hitting this group unfairly and leaving many women with little or no pension.

Pension provision for widows of other ex-employees who have married after retirement varies from scheme to scheme.

Ron Spill, of Legal & General, says: "Pension schemes are becoming increasingly aware of the need to be more flexible, but the rules differ considerably from scheme to scheme. The couple may, for example, have to be married for a certain length of time before the widow qualifies. Deathbed marriages may not count."

He adds, however, that some trustees of schemes that currently provide pensions to widows of men who have married after retirement, are getting concerned about the potential cost of providing such a pension where older men marry very much younger women.

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Golden handcuffs for young savers

YOUNG Sovereign, the children's account at Skipton, was closed yesterday, after the building society reached its target figure. Opened in September 1993, the interest rate stayed at 6.5 per cent. "We are thrilled," said a spokesman for the Skipton. "Most of our accounts were opened with the maximum of £3,000. But we want to concentrate on our high net-worth customers."

An increasing number of societies offer a wide range of children's accounts. Interest is either paid yearly or half-yearly, and age groups vary from 11 to 18, even up to 23.

The 18 Club, part of Harpenden Building Society, refuses withdrawals until the child's eighteenth birthday, except to representatives of a deceased holder. An account is opened in the name of a child, and on the eighteenth birthday, the investor is given the choice of receiving a cheque for the investment plus interest, or transferring the money to another society account. The minimum investment is £5.

Richard Mason, branches and agencies manager at Harpenden, says: "Parents and grandparents feel there is a need for children to save until they reach adult status. Parents want their children to appreciate the investment, and to recognise the importance of saving."

At 7.35 per cent, interest rates for the 18 Club are high. Mr Mason says: "The response has been particularly good in the past year because of increased financial demands on youngsters for university, cars and homes. We don't offer any free gifts or incentives — just a competitive rate of interest."

The Halifax Building Society does offer free gifts. Membership of the Little Xtra Club, for under 9-year-olds, offers a moneybox, stickers, a badge and Christmas cards. The Quest Club, for 10 to 15-year-olds, and the Way Ahead Club, give magazines and a career guide. The interest rate is 4.25 per cent with instant access. Minimum investment is £10.

"We want to encourage youngsters to stay with us from the cradle to the grave," Mark Hemingway, a Halifax spokesman, says. "Parents want their children to be aware of the value of money, and we want to make saving both interesting and exciting. An account can be transferred to the child when they're old enough to look after their own financial affairs."

MORAG PRESTON

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	6.20	Yly
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
Britannia BS 01538 392808	Capital Trust	Postal	£10,000	6.50	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Coventry BS 01203 839333	Fixed Rate Bond	31.3.97	£1,000	8.10	F/Yly
Woolwich BS 0800 400900	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£500	8.50	F/Yly
Cooperative Bank 0800 125100	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£2,000	9.25	OM
Bristol & West BS 0117 9294271	Fixed Rate Bond	5yr bond	£5,000	8.70	F/Mly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£8,900	9.00	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 01455 251234		5 year	£3,000 A	7.65	Yly
Market Harborough BS 01858 463244		5 year	£9,000	7.75	Yly
Holmesdale BS 01737 245716		5 year	£500	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

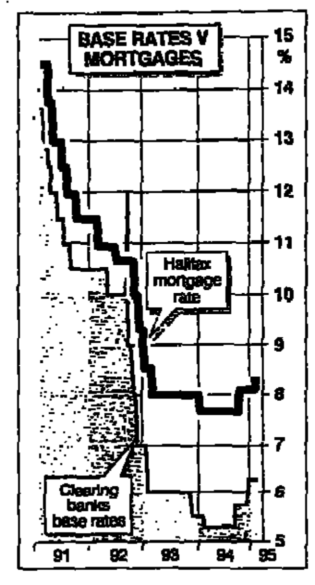
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

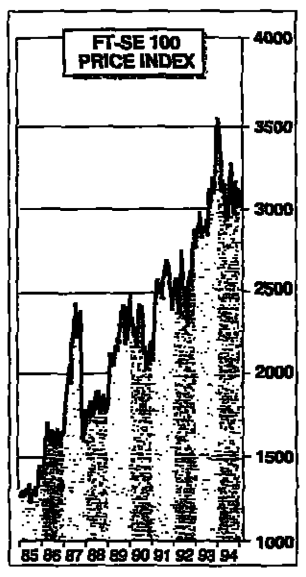
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Clydesdale Bank 0141 223 2216	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33
Midland Bank 0345 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS 0800 808080	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Abbey National 01908 680140	16.90%	£117.41	£105.05

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		01416494555
*Investment A/c**	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	01416494555
Income Bond*	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	01253766151
First Opt Bond	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		01416362558
42nd Issue Certs†	5.85			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Yearly Plan†	5.85			20-400/mth	14day	01913884900
Children's Bond†	7.86			25-1,000	1mth	01416362635
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bonds	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	01416362603
8th Index Linked†	3.00			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000	60day	01253766151

*[1] first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 · Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‡Guaranteed when held for 5 years ‡£40,000 jt in addition to S1 holdings ¶Taxable but cred in full. ¶0.3% net bonus for £20,000+*

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equit Life	Level	£10,970	£12,004	£13,330
Comm Union	Level	£10,412	£11,682	£13,342
Can Life	Level	£10,628	£11,780	£13,344
MGM Asrnce	Level	£10,659	£11,715	£13,161
Generali	Level	£10,692	£11,706	£13,032

SINGLE LIFE	Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Nor Union	Level	£9,922	£10,641	£11,714
Equitable	Level	£9,933	£10,743	£11,862
Prudential	Level	£9,927	£10,648	£11,712
Generali	Level	£9,805	£10,636	£11,792
MGM Asrnce	Level	£9,927	£10,670	£11,779

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Female:	Age 60 Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Nrwch Uni	Lev	£9,606	£10,143	£10,924
Equitable	Level	£9,549	£10,163	£11,008
Prudential	Level	£9,645	£10,101	£10,887
MGM Asrnce	Level	£9,621	£10,226	£11,695
Generali	Level	£9,463	£10,067	£10,906

Source: Annuity Direct (071 375 1175)

Compiled by: Morag Preston

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at March 8, 1995

	Investment (£)	Company	Stadard Rate (%)
1 Year	1,000	Premium Life	5.50
	5,000	AIG Life	6.00
	10,000	AIG Life	6.20
	20,000	AIG life	6.30
	50,000	AIG Life	6.35
	100,000	AIG Life	6.40
	250,000	AIG Life	6.45
2 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.30
	5,000	AIG Life	6.60
	10,000	AIG life	6.80
	20,000	AIG Life	7.00
	50,000	AIG Life	7.05
	100,000	AIG Life	7.10
	250,000	AIG Life	7.15
3 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.40
	5,000	AIG Life	6.45
	10,000	AIG Life	6.55
	20,000	AIG Life	6.65
	50,000	AIG Life	6.75
	100,000	AIG Life	6.80
	250,000	AIG Life	6.85
4 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.50
	50,000	Gan Life	6.60
5 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.60
	5,000	Scottish Widows	7.40

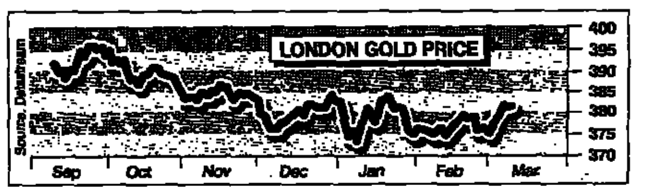
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 01225 483636. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Vary terms. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	88.25	10.615	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	112.00	10.379	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	124.25	10.463	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	126.50	10.573	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	122.50	10.612	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	116.00	10.129	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	114.00	10.618	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	103.75	11.325	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	87.50	10.000	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	117.75	10.235	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	135.00	10.093	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	125.50	10.657	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	101.375	10.604	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	120.25	10.499	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	120.25	10.499	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	120.25	10.707	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	8.9875%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	8.8854%	102.75	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source. AMB AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bradford & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£15k+	75	5.3% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	2.95	neg	80	5.49% discount for 12 months
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.5.96
Banks				
Abbey National *0800 555100*	3.49	neg	75	4.85% discount *to 31.5.96*
Lloyds Local branch	3.60	£60k+	60	5.1% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	1295	£25-100k	95	7.2% disc-6 mns 4.95% disc-6 mn
Hinckley & Rugby 0455 251234	1.50	to £150k	70	Rate fixed to 1.1.96
Yorkshire 0274 740740	1.44	£25-£150k	95	7% disc-6 mnths 3% disc-6 mnths
Banks				
Bank of Ireland *0734 510100*	3.40	£20-210k	90	5.10% discount *to 1.4.96*
HYPO - MSL 0344 394095	3.39	£15-£150k	95	5.10% discount to 1.5.96

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Britannia 0800 526350	3.55	neg	75	5.30% for 1 year
Brad & Bingley 0274 555555	3.15	£30k+	75	Fixed to 2.1.96
Skipton *0800 590545*	2.24	to £150k	95	6%-5 months then 1.75% for 1 year
Banks				
B of Scotland 0132 556 8555	3.94	£15k-150k	95	4.50% discount to 31.1.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.60	£60K+	95	4.75% for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE				
Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8800				
Balanced	441.30	467.00	- 3.00	..
UK Equity	553.20	585.50	- 3.30	...
Property	488.90	517.40	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Interest	307.60	325.60	- 5.40	...
Money	253.70	267.50	+ 0.10	...
International	354.50	375.20	- 2.70	...
ABBEY LIFE				
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	280.30	295.10	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	529.40	557.30		
Equity Fd Inc	160.30	168.80	- 1.90	0.0
-do- Acc	213.70	225.00	- 2.50	0.0
Selective Fd	480.90	506.30	- 2.80	0.0
Money Fd	381.40	401.50	+ 0.50	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	412.70	434.50	...	...
Equity Ser 4	207.20	218.20	- 1.90	...
Man Ser 4	633.30	666.70	- 8.10	0.0
Conv Ser 4	331.50	349.00	+ 0.40	...
Money Ser 4	331.10	348.60	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	341.90	359.90	- 1.70	0.0
American Ser 4	476.20	501.30	- 2.60	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	647.20	681.30	- 7.60	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	206.20	217.10	- 1.30	0.0
Japan Ser 4	328.70	346.00	+ 1.20	0.0
ALBANY LIFE				
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£14.62	£15.39	- 8.60	...
European Fd Acc	357.10	375.80	- 0.20	...
Fixed Int Acc	495.80	521.80	- 3.50	...
Gtd Money Acc	337.70	355.40	+ 0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	565.20	594.90	- 6.40	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	324.10	341.10	+ 4.10	...
Japan Fund	240.10	252.70	+ 4.70	...
N American Acc	308.10	324.20	- 2.40	...
Prop Fd Acc	447.60	471.10	+ 0.40	...
Multiple Inv Acc	976.70	£10.28	- 5.20	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	375.80	395.60	+ 0.30	...
Equity Acc	£13.29	£13.99	- 9.00	...
Property Acc	584.90	615.70	+ 0.30	...
Far East Acc	285.00	300.00	- 2.20	...
Managed Capital	501.40	527.80	- 3.70	...
-do- Acc	£10.32	£10.87	- 7.40	...
Overseas Acc	889.10	935.90	- 0.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	472.80	497.70	- 3.50	...
Amer Equity Acc	760.50	800.60	+ 2.90	...
Amer Man Acc	324.10	341.20	+ 1.30	...
Amer Prop Acc	114.50	120.60	+ 0.60	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	156.20	164.90	- 0.30	...
Balced Ser 6	683.30	719.20	- 5.50	...
Opportunity Ser 6	154.10	162.20	- 0.30	...
Distribution Ser 6	94.60	99.50	- 1.10	7.37
UK Equities Ser 6	923.40	972.00	-14.30	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	987.00	£10.38	-24.60	...
North Amer Ser 6	441.30	464.50		...
Far East Ser 6	530.90	558.80	+ 2.60	...
Europe Ser 6	356.40	375.10	- 7.20	...
Intnl Ser 6	534.80	562.90	- 0.30	...
Property Ser 6	558.20	587.50	...	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	430.30	452.90	- 0.80	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	176.60	185.80	- 0.90	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	298.80	314.50	- 0.50	...
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	796.10	838.00	- 5.50	...
-do- Initial	521.30	548.80	- 3.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	372.50	392.20	- 3.00	...
-do- Initial	246.10	259.10	- 2.00	...
International Acc	375.00	394.80	- 0.90	...
-do- Initial	246.10	259.10	- 0.60	...
Managed Acc	497.30	523.50	- 2.40	...
-do- Initial	327.50	344.80	- 1.60	...
Money Acc	293.60	309.10	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	308.70	322.90	+ 0.30	...
-do- Initial	200.90	211.50	+ 0.10	...
America Acc	266.60	280.70	+ 1.30	...
Australia Acc	191.80	201.90	- 2.40	...
Financial Acc	311.50	327.90	- 0.50	...
500 Accum	412.10	433.80	- 2.90	...
Japan Genl Acc	310.80	327.20	+ 7.40	...
Income Acc	481.60	507.00	- 7.60	...
Leisure Acc	212.60	223.80	- 2.10	...
Special Sits Acc	222.30	234.10	- 0.60	...
Univ Tech Acc	148.50	156.40	- 0.50	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834800				
The Managed Fd	761.77	761.77	-10.79	..
Income Fund	719.06	756.91	-13.23	..
Extra Income	651.81	686.12	-11.51	..
Worldwide Gth	455.52	479.50	- 3.89	..
Balanced Fund	627.76	660.80	-10.66	..
Smllr Cos Recov	640.35	683.53	- 1.13	..
N Amer & Genl	334.67	352.29	- 5.43	..
Pacific Basin	379.31	399.28	-18.99	..
German Growth	238.17	250.71	+ 1.17	..
Japan Growth	167.26	176.59	+ 4.45	..
The UK Gth Fd	196.66	207.0	- 3.80	..
Contl Euro Gth	129.45	136.27	- 1.12	..
Property Fund	412.54	434.57	- 1.42	..
Fixed Interest	298.82	314.55	- 3.02	..
Cash Fund	285.70	300.74	+ 0.28	..
Managed Inv	461.02	485.29	- 6.92	..
Nth Amer Recov	225.70	237.58	- 2.15	..
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	494.66	520.70	- 0.93	..
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE				
PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 01475 888000				
Measured Perf	149.50	158.20	- 2.30	..
Performance Plus	148.90	157.50	- 1.00	..
With Profit Perf	173.90	183.50	+ 0.10	...
UK Opportunity	166.70	176.40	- 1.60	...
Euro Opportunity	204.40	216.20	- 8.70	...
North Amer Opp	158.10	167.20	- 1.70	...
Far East Opp	171.50	181.40	- 1.40	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	127.60	134.40	+ 1.90	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	180.90	191.40	- 1.90	...
Fixed Int	184.70	195.40	- 0.80	...
Cash	157.70	166.80	+ 0.20	...
Overseas	171.60	181.50	- 1.10	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	312.30	328.80	- 4.50	...
UK Equity	521.30	548.80	- 5.10	...
Property	267.00	281.10	-19.10	...
Money Market	254.10	267.50	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	296.80	312.50	+ 0.20	...
Japan	338.30	356.20	+ 1.70	...
North America	143.80	151.40	- 0.30	...
International	263.70	277.60	- 1.90	...
European	263.50	277.40	-11.10	...
Far East	118.80	125.10	- 0.90	...
CANADA LIFE				
24 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth	£271.80	...	...	...
Managed	309.80	326.20	- 3.50	...
Property	238.40	251.00	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	235.40	247.80	- 1.90	...
Equity	341.20	359.20	- 3.80	...
Cash	218.30	229.80	+ 0.10	...
CLife Euro Mgd	354.90	373.60	- 6.00	...
CLife Intl Fd	327.60	344.90	- 7.30	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	172.90	182.00	...	...
Managed Fund	561.80	591.40	- 9.90	...
Equity Fund	319.40	336.30	- 6.10	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	271.30	285.60	- 2.10	...
Ruby	161.80	170.40	- 0.60	...
Emerald	142.90	150.50	- 0.50	...
Equity	307.10	323.30	- 3.70	...
Property	233.10	245.40	- 0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	197.90	208.40	- 1.30	...
Indexed Secs	164.30	172.90	- 0.60	...
Cash	188.80	198.80	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	215.50	226.90	- 2.97	...
Far East	295.10	310.70	- 0.50	...
International	226.20	238.20	+ 0.20	...
Special Sits	309.60	326.00	- 2.30	...
Intl Income	273.60	288.10	- 3.10	...
American Inc	185.10	194.90	+ 0.40	...
European	304.50	320.60	- 6.10	...
Japanese	134.10	141.20	+ 3.30	...
SE Asia	328.70	346.10	- 2.30	...
With Profits Reg	167.40	176.30	+ 0.30	...
-do- Spec	167.40	176.30	+ 0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	300.30	316.40	- 2.10	...
Equity	355.30	374.00	- 4.00	...
Property	213.60	224.90	- 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	245.00	257.90	- 2.40	...
Index Linked	173.10	182.30	- 0.70	...
Cash	253.20	266.60	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	262.10	275.90	- 2.20	...
Far East Acc	288.80	304.00	+ 2.90	...
International Acc	281.10	295.90	- 0.10	...
Special Sits	444.60	468.00	- 0.70	...
European Flex	417.70	439.70	- 5.30	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP				
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Unitst-Key)	£207.18	...	- 3.10	...
-do- Pacemaker	£297.30	...	- 4.95	...
-do- Cash	205.42	216.23	- 0.11	...
-do- Equity	514.84	541.94	- 3.07	...
-do- Fxd Int	345.14	363.31	- 3.06	...
-do- Managed	369.49	388.94	- 2.72	...
-do- Property	288.38	303.56	- 3.53	...
(Pensnr Cash Cap	208.92	219.93	+ 0.06	...
-do- Cash Inv	308.66	324.91	- 0.30	...
-do- Equity Cap	£13.28	£13.95	-12.66	...
-do- Equity Inv	£19.58	£20.61	-17.31	...
-do- Fixed Cap	377.23	397.10	- 3.34	...
-do- Fixed Inv	557.32	586.66	- 4.54	...
-do- Index Cap	193.44	203.63	- 1.98	...
-do- Index Inv	285.79	300.84	- 2.72	...
Mngd Cap	531.53	559.51	- 5.75	...
Mngd Inv	785.27	826.61	- 7.94	...
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (3)	1651.29	...	-10.73	...
Var Ann (3)	186.78	...	- 0.74	...
Prime: Managed	380.20	400.30	- 2.20	...
Prime: UK Equity	457.50	481.60	- 3.10	...
Prime: Int Equity	283.50	298.50	- 0.40	...
Prime: Property	254.40	267.80	+ 0.20	...
Prime: Fxd Int	224.20	236.00	- 2.50	...
Prime: Index-Lnk	164.40	173.10	- 1.70	...
Prime: Cash	207.60	218.60	+ 0.30	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744840				
Managed Fund	£10.95	£11.53	...	0.0
Equity Fund	£15.72	£16.55	- 1.40	..
CROWN FINANCIAL				
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 01483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	563.50	593.10	- 4.00	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	362.90	382.00	- 2.40	...
Life Equity Acc	784.20	825.40	- 7.30	...
Life Money Acc	303.40	319.30	+ 0.10	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	742.90	781.90	-12.70	
Life Intl Acc	468.50	493.10	- 1.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	761.70	801.70	- 7.80	...
Life Property Acc	258.80	272.40	- 0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£12.75	...	-34.10	...
Brewin Equity	642.80	670.00	-22.90	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311				
Secure Fund	177.00	186.40	+ 0.10	...
Managed Fund	224.30	236.20	- 2.50	...
-do- Series 2	147.30	155.10	- 1.50	...
Adventurous Fd	178.40	187.80	- 1.00	...
-do- *Series 2*	136.80	144.10	- 0.70	...
Equity Mngd Fd	225.90	237.80	- 2.60	...
-do- Series 2	149.80	157.70	- 1.70	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	137.50	144.80	- 0.90	...
UK Equity Fund	152.20	160.30	- 1.00	...
Property Fund	122.30	128.80	+ 0.70	...
Envrnmntl Opps	154.70	162.90	+ 0.80	...
Euro Fund	179.70	189.20	- 2.80	...
North Amer Fd	184.50	194.30	...	...
Oriental Ops	209.10	220.20	- 6.30	...
Japanese Fund	116.70	122.90	+ 1.70	...
Bri & West Life	125.30	131.90	+ 0.20	...
Bri & West Pen	141.90	149.40	+ 0.30	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	241.80	250.60	- 3.10	3.66
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	288.90	304.20	- 2.20	...
UK Equity	380.50	400.60	- 4.00	...
Stewardship	324.20	341.30	- 1.40	...
Overseas Equity	264.40	278.40	- 1.20	...
North American	143.00	150.60	- 0.70	...
Pacific Basin	151.60	159.60	+ 0.40	...
European	209.80	220.90	- 2.40	...
Property	204.20	215.00	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	226.10	238.10	- 1.30	...
Index Linked	163.00	171.60	- 1.00	...
Cash	202.40	213.10	+ 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	521.20	548.60	- 3.80	...
Managed	665.00	700.00	- 3.80	...
Deposit	347.40	365.60	+ 0.30	...
Property	488.00	513.60	+ 0.60	...
American	404.70	426.00	- 5.70	...
Australian	471.90	496.70	- 4.40	...
European	508.10	534.80	- 5.80	...
Income Acc	718.50	756.60	- 6.10	...
-do- Dist	415.80	437.30	- 4.70	5.48
International	291.00	306.30	- 1.60	...
Japan Smaller	471.00	495.70	+ 4.50	...
Singapore & Mal	354.70	373.30	-16.50	...
Smaller Cos	379.20	399.10	- 1.90	...
Tokyo Fund	639.30	672.60	+ 2.60	...
UK Equity	555.00	584.20	- 5.40	...
CCM Vangd Mg	704.60	741.60	- 8.60	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	299.20	315.00	- 0.30	...
GT Plan Wwide	446.00	469.50	- 3.70	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS				
Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	654.40	654.40	- 2.90	...
-do- Inv A	654.30	688.80	- 3.10	...
UK Equity	386.90	407.30	- 3.20	...
Gilt Plus	196.20	206.70	- 1.80	...
Managed	290.70	306.10	- 1.30	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	198.80	209.10	- 2.50	...
Unitised Profit	139.00	146.30	- 0.20	...
UK Equity	266.30	280.20	- 2.60	...
Fixed Int	187.60	197.40	- 1.50	...
Index-Linked	159.10	167.40	- 1.50	...
Cash Deposit	175.60	184.80	+ 0.10	...
Property	193.10	203.30	+ 0.10	...
International	163.10	171.60	- 2.60	...
American	154.70	162.70	+ 0.50	...
Japan	227.60	239.50	+ 3.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	233.10	245.20	+ 3.80	...
European	174.00	183.20	- 3.00	...
Pacific Fund	257.40	271.00	- 5.10	...
Conv Life	119.30	125.50	- 1.50	...
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	823.00	857.30	...	...
Managed Initial	430.60	453.30	- 1.80	...
-do- Acc	617.70	650.20	- 2.30	...
Equity Initial	639.00	672.60	- 2.80	...
-do- Acc	916.60	964.80	- 3.60	...
Fixed Int Initial	428.40	450.90	- 2.00	...
-do- Acc	614.30	646.60	- 2.60	...
Intl Initial	421.60	443.80	- 1.80	...
-do- Acc	604.80	636.60	- 2.30	...
Nth Amer Initial	171.00	179.90	+ 5.90	...
-do- Acc	223.20	234.90	+ 7.90	...
Pacific Initial	224.10	235.90	+ 3.30	...
-do- Acc	289.80	305.00	+ 4.30	...
Property Initial	181.40	191.00	...	...
-do- Acc	260.10	273.80	...	...
Index-Lnkd Intl	154.10	162.20	- 0.50	...
-do- Acc	201.10	211.70	- 0.60	...
Deposit Initial	198.20	208.60	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	284.30	299.30	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	101.00	106.30	- 1.00	...
-do- Acc	121.90	128.30	- 1.10	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD				
PO Box 288, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	23.88	25.13	- 0.12	...
Balanced	24.00	25.26	- 0.14	...
Opportunity	23.87	25.12	- 0.27	...
Deposit	23.84	25.09	+ 0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	23.76	25.13	- 0.02	...
Balanced	23.89	25.14	- 0.26	...
Opportunity	23.75	24.99	- 0.39	...
Deposit	23.87	25.12	+ 0.02	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE				
Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 01277 200939				
Managed	156.40	164.60	- 2.30	...
-do- Pens	191.40	201.40	- 2.60	...
UK Equity	160.50	168.90	- 1.50	...
-do- Pens	180.60	190.10	- 2.10	...
International	137.00	144.20	- 1.00	...
-do- Pens	149.40	157.20	- 1.00	..
Deposit	140.80	148.20	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	167.10	175.80	+ 0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION				
3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 0171 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	334.80	356.20	- 3.50	...
North America	335.20	356.60	+ 1.50	...
Far East Fund	574.40	611.10	- 5.10	...
Global Managed	439.50	467.60	- 4.00	...
Deposit Fund	231.40	243.60	+ 0.40	...
Prime Residential	137.70	145.00	+ 0.80	...
European Fund	249.70	265.70	- 2.10	...
Fixed Interest	60.30	64.20	- 0.10	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	480.20	508.20	- 2.40	..
British Fund	495.20	524.10	- 4.40	..
International	514.20	544.20	- 1.50	..
Dollar Fund	375.10	397.00	+ 2.00	..
Capital Fund	453.90	480.40	- 4.00	..
Income Fund	650.80	688.70	- 7.10	..
Property Series A	461.70	488.60	...	4.50
Property Units	762.40	800.60	...	...
Financial Fund	547.30	579.20	- 3.30	..
Managed Ser A	515.00	545.00	- 3.50	..
Managed Units	922.50	971.10	- 6.20	..
High Yield Fund	611.00	646.60	- 9.40	..
Money Series A	291.20	308.20	+ 0.20	..
Money Units	386.20	406.60	+ 0.30	..
Equity Fund	579.40	613.20	- 4.90	..
Fixed Interest	356.30	377.10	- 0.80	..
Indexed Secs	180.80	191.40	- 0.60	..
European Fund	687.00	727.00	- 7.30	..
Natural Res	269.70	285.40	+ 2.80	..
Far East Fund	617.70	653.70	- 2.20	..
Smaller Cos	459.80	486.60	- 0.80	..
Special Sits	425.00	449.80	- 8.20	..
Man Currency	262.10	277.40	+ 0.90	..
Japanese Tech	272.30	288.20	+ 1.00	..
US Smaller Cos	244.80	259.10	+ 3.40	..
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	535.30	563.50	- 7.50	..
Global Property	294.20	309.70	...	..
Global Fixed Int	495.20	521.30	- 6.10	..
Global Equity	569.50	599.50	- 8.90	..
Global Cash	215.60	226.90	+ 0.20	..
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 01452 371371				
Property	488.30	514.20	+ 0.10	..
Managed	391.60	412.30	- 3.00	..
American	390.20	410.70	+ 2.30	..
UK Equity Fd	418.30	440.30	- 4.00	..
Japan	191.30	201.30	+ 3.40	..
Index-Lkd	179.20	188.60	- 1.30	..
High Yield	794.20	836.00	-19.50	..
Money	406.80	428.20	+ 0.40	..
International	370.00	389.40	- 2.10	..
Henderson Active	201.40	211.90	- 0.90	..
Perpetual Active	305.60	321.60	- 4.30	..
Growth Acc	612.50	644.70	- 6.30	..
Gilt Edged	420.70	442.80	- 3.00	..
European	150.50	158.40	- 2.40	..
Far East	187.90	197.70	- 5.80	..
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 724000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.90	142.10	...	..
-do- Acc	188.00	197.90	+ 0.20	..
Brit Opps Inf	133.70	140.80	- 1.70	..
-do- Acc	167.30	176.20	- 2.00	..
Cash Initial	167.40	176.30	+ 0.30	..
-do- Acc	290.40	305.70	+ 0.30	..
Equity Initial	611.70	643.90	- 7.30	..
-do- Acc	£10.60	£11.16	-12.60	..
Fixed Initial	331.90	349.40	- 2.30	..
-do- Acc	575.70	606.00	- 3.90	..
Index-Lnkd Gilt	128.30	135.10	- 0.80	..
-do- Acc	189.80	199.80	- 1.40	..
Intl Initial	299.10	314.90	- 5.00	..
-do- Acc	510.70	537.60	- 8.60	..
Managed Initial	444.30	467.70	- 5.20	..
-do- Acc	770.30	811.30	- 9.00	..
Property Initial	218.20	229.70	- 0.20	..
-do- Acc	378.50	398.50	+ 0.50	..
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 0181 902 8876				
Equity Units	£123.40	...	- 1.67	..
Property Units	£27.03	...	- 0.01	..
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£64.02	£67.39	- 0.47	..
2nd Equity Acc	602.30	634.00	- 8.50	..
2nd High Inc Acc	580.60	611.20	- 8.50	..
2nd Property Acc	246.20	259.10	- 0.10	..
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	178.20	187.60	- 0.30	..
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	449.70	473.40	- 3.30	..
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	221.50	233.10	- 1.70	..
2nd Deposit Acc	285.20	300.20	...	..
2nd Gilt Acc	297.50	313.10	- 2.20	..
2nd Amer Acc	633.60	666.90	- 4.40	..
2nd Intl Mny Acc	272.00	286.30	+ 6.30	..
2nd Index Acc	202.30	212.90	- 1.30	..
2nd Far East Acc	418.60	440.60	- 1.00	..
2nd Global Acc	160.20	168.60	- 0.20	..
2nd Euro Acc	156.50	164.70	- 1.50	..
2nd Japan Acc	186.60	196.40	+ 4.10	..
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	162.50	171.10	+ 1.00	..
2nd Cap Gth Acc	122.60	129.00	- 1.00	..
LONDON LIFE				
100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0117 9279179				
Equity	£874.90	...	- 2.10	..
Fixed Interest	£410.10	...	- 1.30	...
Property	£421.90	...	+ 1.10	..
Deposit	£294.90	...	+ 0.20	..
Mixed	£570.70	...	- 0.80	..
Indexed Stock	£306.30	...	- 1.80	..
International	£279.70	...	- 0.20	..
Equity A	£200.00	...	- 0.50	..
Fixed Int A	£181.90	...	- 0.60	...
Property A	£186.30	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit A	£173.30	..	+ 0.10	...
Mixed A	£195.50	...	+ 4.70	...
Index Stock A	£161.50	...	- 1.40	...
International A	£174.70	...	- 1.90	...
Equity P	£720.00	...	- 1.10	...
Fixed Int P	£541.00	...	- 2.10	...
Property P	£336.00	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit P	£347.60	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed P	£530.90	...	- 0.70	...
Index Stock P	£236.30	...	- 1.90	...
International P	£323.30	...	...	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	£541.80	...	- 7.50	...
-do- Acc	£917.70	...	-12.00	...
Property Cap	£148.80	...	- 0.20	...
-do- Acc	£242.30	...	...	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£186.50	...	- 2.10	...
-do- Acc	£305.50	...	- 3.20	...
Equity Cap	£292.20	...	- 4.60	...
-do- Acc	£485.10	...	- 7.10	...
Internatl Cap	£213.20	...	- 2.30	...
-do- Acc	£350.50	...	- 3.20	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£164.80	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£266.50	...	+ 0.10	7.20
Flexible Cap	£318.10	...	- 4.10	...
-do- Acc	£520.60	...	- 6.20	...
Moneymaker Fd	£406.40	...	- 5.10	...
Capital Growth	£15.75	...	-21.60	...
M & G				
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	388.20	407.70	- 1.60	..
Amer Rec Bond	455.30	478.00	- 3.60	..
Am Smlr Cos Bd	232.40	244.10	- 1.00	..
Australasia Bd	196.90	206.80	- 3.70	..
Commodity Bond	276.40	290.40	- 2.80	..
Deposit Bond Acc	364.70	383.00	+ 0.10	..
Equity Bond Acc	£14.46	£15.18	- 6.40	..
European Bd Acc	364.50	382.80	- 5.20	..
Extra Yld Bd Acc	698.10	733.10	- 7.10	..
Far East Bd Acc	283.50	297.70	- 6.40	..
Gilt Bond Acc	425.30	446.70	- 4.20	..
Gold Bond Acc	138.30	145.30	+ 5.60	..
High Yield Bond	314.10	329.90	- 2.30	..
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	200.80	211.00	- 2.10	..
International Bd	721.60	757.80	- 4.00	..
Japan Bond Acc	250.90	263.60	+ 4.20	..
Japan Sm Cos Ac	243.00	255.30	+ 0.50	..
Managed Bonds	834.70	876.60	- 8.70	..
Prop Bond Acc	330.00	346.60	- 2.10	..
Rec Bond Acc	708.00	743.50	- 7.40	..
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	209.30	220.40	- 1.80	..
UK Equity Acc	298.00	313.70	- 2.30	..
Special Sits	86.90	91.50	- 0.70	..
Special Sits Acc	123.70	130.30	- 0.80	..
North American	169.30	178.30	- 0.60	..
N American Acc	241.00	253.70	- 0.80	..
Pacific Basin	335.30	353.00	- 2.10	..
Pacific Basin Acc	477.40	502.60	- 2.60	..
Fixed Interest	271.20	285.50	- 2.30	..
Fixed Interest Acc	386.60	407.00	- 3.00	..
Property	178.40	187.80		
Property Acc	254.40	267.80	- 0.30	..
Deposit	152.10	160.20		
Deposit Acc	217.20	228.70	+ 0.10	..
Managed	243.00	255.80	- 2.00	..
Managed Acc	319.00	335.80	- 2.40	..
MANULIFE GROUP				
St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 01438 356101				
Managed Fund	681.90	717.60	- 5.10	..
Property Fund	547.70	576.50	- 0.60	..
Equity Fund	861.90	907.30	-10.20	..
Gilt Edged Fd	596.10	627.50	- 5.50	..
Deposit Fund	334.00	351.60	+ 0.20	..
Investment Fd	369.90	388.40	- 4.20	..
International	516.20	543.40	- 0.90	..
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366				
Property	445.90	469.30	+ 0.30	...
UK Equity	336.10	353.70	- 5.60	...
Gilt Edged	555.40	584.60	- 2.80	...
Interest Fund	390.30	410.80	+ 0.20	...
UK Fund	464.80	489.20	- 6.80	...
Intl Equity	560.10	590.00	- 6.30	...
Intl Managed	537.50	565.70	- 7.10	...
North American	207.90	218.80	- 0.40	...
Far East	422.50	444.70	- 0.60	...
Intl Currency	265.50	279.40	- 5.20	...
NPI				
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200				
Managed	460.40	484.60	- 2.60	..
UK Equity	569.30	599.20	- 6.20	..
Overseas Equity	449.10	472.70	- 0.50	..
Americas	377.70	397.50	- 1.90	..
Far East	504.00	530.50	- 4.80	...
Property	221.80	233.40	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	375.30	395.00	- 1.80	..
Indexed Gilt	225.00	236.80	- 1.70	..
Deposit	218.60	230.10	+ 0.10	..
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds				
PO Box 148, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200				
Managed Fund	£13.59	£14.30	- 8.70	...
Eqty Fund	£29.43	£30.98	-30.00	...
Property Fd	577.50	607.90	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Int Fd	575.90	606.20	- 4.20	...
Deposit Fund	352.50	371.10	+ 0.30	...
Intl Fund	231.10	243.20	- 0.50	...
PEARL ASSURANCE				
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	157.80	166.10	+ 0.20	
Prop Acc (Gross)	332.30	349.80	+ 0.30	
Inv Equity	£11.40	£12.01	-11.10	...
Inv Managed	813.90	856.80	- 7.00	..
Ret Managed	907.00	954.80	- 6.80	...
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL				
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	270.50	285.40	+ 2.80	...
Fxd Interest Acc	234.90	247.80	- 1.20	...
International Acc	232.70	245.50	- 3.70	...
Managed Acc	207.50	218.90	- 3.30	...
Property Acc	226.10	238.60	+10.60	...
Money Acc	156.10	164.70	+ 0.20	...
Spec Mkt Acc	213.60	225.40	+ 1.50	...
Japan Equity Acc	118.50	125.00	+ 2.20	...
N Amer Acc	145.70	153.70	- 1.10	...
Pacific Acc	146.00	154.10	- 2.20	...
European Acc	177.60	187.40	- 5.60	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL				
Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2ST 01438 732800				
Managed Ord	454.20	478.10	- 3.00	..
Managed Initial	303.70	319.70	- 2.20	..
Equity Ord	682.70	718.60	- 6.30	..
Equity Init	456.50	480.50	- 4.60	..
I-Linked Gilt Ord	295.00	305.30	- 1.40	..
I-Linked Gilt Init	136.20	143.40	- 1.00	..
Oseas Equity Ord	356.90	375.70	- 0.90	..
Oseas Equity Init	238.70	251.30	- 0.70	..
Property Ord	283.80	298.70	+ 0.30	..
Property Init	189.70	199.70	...	..
Fixed Int Ord	272.80	287.20	- 2.50	..
Fixed Int Init	182.40	192.00	- 1.90	..
Deposit Ord	208.10	219.10	+ 0.30	..
Deposit Initial	139.10	146.40	...	..
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 0171 405 9222				
Managed	328.50	339.10	- 2.00	..
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS				
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	755.40	795.20	- 7.20	..
Equity Fund	£13.98	£14.72	-17.90	..
Intl Fund	590.10	621.20	- 4.30	..
Fixed Interest	550.80	579.80	- 4.10	..
Property Fund	483.30	508.70	...	..
Cash Fund	368.10	387.50	+ 0.30	..
Pacific Basin	329.50	346.90	- 1.20	..
N American Fd	243.50	256.40	- 2.20	..
Euro Fund	259.00	272.70	- 3.00	..
Balanced Fund	148.70	156.60	- 1.30	..
Strategic Fund	155.80	164.00	- 0.70	..
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE				
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	1722.10	...	+ 1.00	...
-do- Acc	430.60	453.30	- 0.80	...
Op Prop	508.60	535.40	- 1.80	...
Op Equity	902.90	950.50	- 5.00	...
Op High Yield	568.00	597.90	- 4.80	...
Op Managed	769.40	809.90	- 5.90	...
Op Deposit	396.40	417.30	+ 0.40	...
Inc Gth	279.70	294.50	- 3.20	...
Japan Smlr	236.90	249.40	+ 6.90	...
Managed Gth	238.60	251.20	- 5.30	...
Gilt	78.20	82.40	- 0.60	...
British	338.40	356.30	- 0.80	...
Global Bond	111.30	117.20	+ 0.80	...
Global (35.34)	162.30	170.90	- 1.80	...
Gold Share	79.30	83.50	+ 0.70	...
High Income	277.30	291.90	- 3.70	...
Income	394.30	415.10	- 6.50	...
Japan	403.20	424.50	+ 5.40	...
UK Smlr Cos	319.30	336.20	-11.40	...
Mngd Growth	428.30	450.90	- 2.60	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	924.50	973.20	-10.50	..
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	368.20	387.50	- 2.60	...
Equity Fund	517.20	544.40	- 1.50	...
Property Fund	337.20	354.90	- 0.40	...
International	452.80	476.60	- 2.30	...
Pacific Basin	251.91	264.70	- 2.50	...
United States	230.30	242.40	- 0.50	...
Gilt Fund	355.70	374.40	- 3.00	...
SAVE & PROSPER				
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	748.00	791.60	- 2.60	2.52
Deposit Fund (2)	375.30	397.20	+ 0.30	6.71
Gilt Fund	505.20	534.70	- 4.80	8.61
Global Equity Fd	227.20	240.50	- 0.70	...
Property Fund (4)	112.30	118.90	+ 0.20	6.64
AG Bond Fund	138.70	146.80	- 2.90	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323				
Equity	560.50	590.00	- 8.30	...
Fixed Interest	362.30	381.40	- 2.70	...
Index-Linked	191.00	201.10	- 1.40	...
International	438.80	461.90	- 1.00	...
Property	301.60	317.50	+ 0.30	...
Cash	232.30	244.60	+ 0.20	...
Managed	449.10	472.80	- 5.30	...
Cap Gteed Bd	107.41	113.10	- 1.30	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101				
Cash	183.11	192.75	+ 0.15	..
Index-Linked	157.10	165.40	- 1.00	..
Fixed Interest	169.80	178.70	- 1.60	..
Mixed	247.20	260.20	- 0.80	..
UK Equity	232.30	244.50	+ 0.90	..
International	248.70	261.80	- 1.50	..
American	246.80	259.80	- 2.80	..
Japan	224.90	236.70	+ 5.40	..
European	249.20	262.40	- 1.80	..
Pacific	327.00	344.30	- 4.10	..
Technology	356.10	374.90	+ 2.40	..
Currncy/Currncy	228.50	240.50	+ 2.40	..
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211				
Property	226.90	239.00	+ 0.40	...
UK Equity	335.40	353.20	- 2.20	...
American	242.30	255.20	+ 4.70	...
Pacific	327.10	344.40	+ 3.20	...
European	461.60	486.00	- 3.50	...
International	295.00	310.60	+ 2.00	...
Fixed Interest	229.40	241.60	+ 0.20	...
Index Linked	190.30	200.40	- 0.70	...
Deposit	196.30	206.70	+ 0.20	...
Managed	274.10	288.60	- 0.20	...
Worldwide	114.90	121.00	- 0.70	...
Pen Worldwide	121.50	128.00	- 0.70	..
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£16.12	£16.62	...	..
Safety Fund	228.80	240.90	- 0.80	..
Growth Fund	219.50	231.10	- 0.90	..
Opportunity Fd	214.70	226.00	- 1.30	..
Cash Fund	176.10	185.40	+ 0.10	..
European Fund	326.90	344.20	- 3.90	..
Gilts & Fxd Int	195.70	206.10	- 1.50	..
Index-Linked Fd	176.10	185.40	- 1.40	..
International Fd	268.40	282.60	- 1.00	..
North American	225.60	237.50	+ 1.70	..
Property Fund	129.90	136.80	- 0.10	..
UK Equity	233.50	245.80	- 1.40	..
UK Smaller	223.60	235.40	- 0.90	..
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181				
Mixed	253.10	266.50	- 1.50	..
Equity	261.30	275.00	- 0.70	..
International	256.60	270.20	- 2.80	..
Property	233.90	246.40	- 0.30	..
Fixed Interest	217.30	228.90	- 1.10	..
Index Linked	174.10	183.40	- 1.70	..
Cash	188.50	198.50	+ 0.10	..
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	758.80	807.30	- 3.50	..
Cash Fund	342.60	361.10	- 0.30	..
Property Fund	296.00	312.00	- 0.40	..
Equity Fund	859.30	914.20	- 7.00	..
Fxd Interest Fund	451.10	475.40	- 3.20	..
International	372.90	396.80	- 4.40	..
High Income	661.60	703.90	- 2.10	..
Far East	528.20	562.00	- 8.20	..
North American	507.80	540.30	- 2.50	..
Special Sits	615.40	654.90	- 3.00	..
Technology	585.10	622.50	- 9.50	..
Extra Income Fd	362.50	385.70	- 1.40	..
Gilt Fund	471.10	501.20	- 1.90	..
European	145.90	155.30	- 2.70	..
Adventurous Mg	204.50	215.30	- 2.40	..
Secure Mgd	144.40	152.20	- 0.60	..
Equity Inc Dist	109.30	115.20	- 0.70	5.10
North American	105.40	111.10	- 0.50	5.40
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	895.00	895.00	- 5.00	...
Inv Pol 2	812.80	855.70	- 4.70	...
Inv Pol 3	775.70	816.60	- 4.50	...
Inv Cash	318.10	334.90	+ 0.30	...
Mixed Fund	427.70	450.40	- 1.10	...
Equity Fund	504.60	531.20	- 2.40	...
Property Fund	247.50	260.60	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	461.20	485.90	- 0.70	...
Fixed Interest Fd	366.50	385.90	- 2.80	...
Indexed Stock Fd	191.60	201.80	- 1.70	...
Cash Fund	230.20	242.50	+ 0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE				
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 01703 334411				
Managed Acc	363.20	382.30	- 3.50	...
Equity Acc	428.80	451.30	- 3.90	...
International Acc	332.40	349.80	+ 0.50	...
Property	235.40	247.70	- 0.20	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0131 225 2552				
Cash	271.00	285.30	+ 0.20	..
Equity	953.80	£10.04	-12.90	..
European	164.80	173.50	- 2.60	..
Far East	161.00	169.50	+ 0.30	..
Fixed Interest	389.60	410.20	- 1.10	..
Index Linked	202.50	213.20	- 1.80	..
International	588.80	619.80	- 2.60	..
Managed	671.70	707.10	- 6.50	..
Nth American	140.70	148.20	- 0.40	..
Property	364.50	383.70	+ 0.20	..
Pensions				
Cash	423.00	445.30	+ 0.30	..
Equity	£13.69	£14.41	-20.80	..
European	194.10	204.40	- 4.10	..
Far East	127.60	134.40	+ 0.30	..
Fixed Interest	540.60	569.10	- 1.20	..
Index Linked	281.70	296.60	- 2.60	..
International	817.10	860.20	- 4.60	..
Managed	940.60	990.20	-10.40	..
Nth American	172.90	182.10	+ 1.00	..
Property	499.20	525.50	+ 0.50	..
Stock Exchange	211.10	222.30	- 2.40	..
SUN ALLIANCE				
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 01403 232323				
Managed Fund	630.40	663.60	- 2.90	..
Equity Fund	817.90	860.90	- 4.70	..
Fixed Interest Fd	402.40	423.60	- 2.90	..
Index-Linked Fd	309.20	325.50	- 2.10	..
Property Fund	528.70	556.60	+ 0.60	..
International Fd	601.70	633.40	- 0.40	..
N American Fd	223.40	235.20	- 0.70	..
Far East Fund	210.00	221.10	- 1.60	..
Deposit Fund	299.10	315.70	+ 0.20	..
International Bd	£80.48	...	- 2.14	..
Worldwide Bond	153.50	161.60	+ 0.50	..
European	158.30	166.70	- 1.90	..
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	621.90	656.80	- 8.50	..
Ebor Phoenix Eq	440.10	470.20		
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£610.90	...	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	£569.50	...	+ 0.60	...
Agricultural Fd	£830.80	...	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc	£798.10	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£451.00	...	+ 0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£476.60	...	+ 0.40	...
Investment Fd	£336.60	...	- 1.40	...
Investment (A)	£322.00	...	- 1.40	...
Equity	£11.90	...	- 6.50	...
Equity Acc	£11.39	...	- 6.20	...
Money Fund	£478.70	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	£457.40	...	+ 0.40	...
Actuarial Fd	£555.70	...	- 2.10	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£377.00	...	- 2.50	...
-do- Acc	£377.00	...	- 2.50	...
Retire Annuity	£12.56	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£307.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£228.60	...	+ 0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ *Dealing: 01256 841414*				
Growth Account	£14.20	...	...	...
Managed Acc	£805.80	...	- 4.00	...
Equity Account	£11.40	...	- 5.10	...
Mngd Fund Acc	370.40	389.90	- 2.10	...
Equity Fund Acc	497.70	523.90	- 2.40	...
Prop Fund Acc	266.00	280.10	- 2.60	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	301.90	317.80	+ 1.20	...
Money Fund Acc	223.40	235.20	+ 0.40	...
Indx-Lnk Sec Ac	200.50	211.00	- 0.70	...
Pers Pens Acct	£18.27	...	...	...
Pens Mngd Acct	849.80	894.60	...	...
Pens Guarantee	256.80	270.30	...	...
Pens Equity	322.30	339.30	...	...
Pens Property	307.10	323.30	...	...
Pens Fixed Int	280.20	295.00	...	...
Pens Intl	233.00	245.30	...	...
Pens Money	239.20	251.80	...	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	191.70	201.80	...	...
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	850.60	895.40	-10.80	...
Property Acc	305.90	322.10	- 2.00	...
Equity Acc	£13.75	£14.47	-17.70	...
Fixed Int Acc	390.00	410.60	- 1.80	...
Cash Acc	312.40	328.90	+ 0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	349.60	368.10	- 9.00	...
Japan Acc	286.50	301.60	+ 8.60	...
Pacific Acc	336.40	354.20	-15.30	...
Far Eastern Acc	789.00	830.60	-17.70	...
International Acc	558.30	587.70	- 7.90	...
Distribution Fund	265.70	279.70	- 3.10	6.20
European	186.30	196.20	- 2.40	...
Deffrd Dist	162.10	170.70	- 1.50	...
TSB LIFE LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 01264 345678				
Managed Fund	270.70	285.00	- 1.70	...
Property Fund	231.10	243.30	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	218.50	230.10	- 1.50	...
Money Fund	202.20	213.00	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	348.70	367.10	- 7.10	...
TARGET LIFE				
The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 01296 394000				
Deposit	251.60	266.00	+ 0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	43.90	47.10	- 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	319.20	336.10	- 1.70	...
Gold	72.90	76.80	+ 1.80	...
Managed	578.40	608.90	- 4.20	...
Mngd Growth	181.50	191.20	- 3.00	...
Mngd Opp	191.50	201.70	- 2.70	...
Property	333.10	350.60	...	...
Residential Prop	101.60	107.00	...	...
TSB American	187.10	197.10	- 0.60	...
TSB Brit Gwth	802.00	844.30	- 3.00	...
TSB European	250.40	263.70	- 1.40	...
TSB Income	356.50	375.40	- 7.80	...
TSB Ind	389.40	410.00	- 1.70	...
TSB Intl Inc	274.20	288.70	- 0.60	...
TSB Pacific	376.80	396.70	- 1.10	...
TSB Prem Inc	241.90	252.70	- 2.00	...
WINDSOR LIFE				
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929				
Managed Bond	649.30	684.10	- 8.60	...
Money Fund	320.60	337.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	571.50	602.20	- 5.70	...
Fixed Interest	271.00	285.60	- 2.60	...
Property Fund	358.80	377.40	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Gnrl	560.70	590.70	- 2.20	...
Income	702.80	740.60	- 8.50	...
International Gth	599.00	631.20	- 2.50	...
Capital Fund	574.20	605.10	+ 0.60	...
Recovery Fund	611.60	644.50	- 0.40	...
Japan & General	249.30	262.70	+ 2.60	...
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.24	19.20	+ 0.08	...
Bear	18.73	19.72	- 0.20	...
Owl	19.41	20.43	- 0.18	...
Bull	16.86	17.75	- 0.23	...
Stag	17.26	18.17	- 0.58	...
Gilt Edged	18.20	19.16	- 0.17	...
Deposit	15.95	16.79	+ 0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.83	26.14	+ 0.02	...
Bear	25.78	27.14	- 0.28	...
Owl	26.00	27.37	- 0.21	...
Bull	21.54	22.67	- 0.30	...
Stag	21.07	22.18	- 0.62	...
Gilt Edged	22.98	24.19	- 0.20	...
Deposit	20.66	21.75	+ 0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	346.69	...	- 7.09	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	317.37	333.97	- 3.58	...
N Amer Equity	266.51	280.54	- 3.66	...
Far East Equity	343.41	361.48	- 2.36	...
Fixed	286.91	302.01	- 2.65	...
Cash Deposit	206.91	217.80	+ 0.13	...
Property	154.80	162.95	+ 0.03	...
Special Opp	314.92	331.49	-13.85	...
Managed	288.96	304.17	- 3.96	...
Index-Linked Fd	185.57	195.34	- 1.15	...

كذا من الاصل

THE TIMES WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Disappearing pensions

From Mrs Olga Wikeley

Sir, Women's pensions seem to have a nasty habit of disappearing for a variety of reasons — ask anyone who paid full National Insurance before marriage, and then paid the special married women's rate before home responsibilities protection was introduced (Weekend Money, March 4).

When I reached 60, I started to receive about 30 per cent of the state retirement pension, based on my own contributions before I married, and presumably on Class 4 (self-employed) contributions afterwards. I assumed that this was mine for life.

Imagine my surprise when my husband reached 65 and it was withdrawn, and I got just a spouse's pension based on his contributions.

Since I am two years older than my husband, at least I had seven years of a partial pension on my own contributions; there must, however, be many women who are younger than their husbands who have never received any benefit directly from what they paid in, and are no better off than those women who never contributed at all.

This still seems very unfair — I do not know whether the European position has changed since 1992, but, even if it has, it is, I fear, unlikely to operate retrospectively.

Yours sincerely,
OLGA WIKELEY,
Jutland,
Carrick Drive,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

I had to do something to get a proper pension
oh, Gran!
GED

Paying for gas by direct debit

From Mr Paul Caspari

Sir, British Gas is attempting to coerce us all into paying for supplies by 12 equal monthly direct debits instead of paying quarterly bills after the fuel has been used.

If those debits start now (March), we will have paid for nearly 60 per cent of a year's gas by the end of September, having used 15 per cent or less during the warm months.

Starting direct debits in October or November will ensure that gas continues to be delivered before it is paid for. By next March, we will be owing money that will gradually be paid off during the summer months of 1996.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL CASPARI,
Phoenix,
1 Pipers Green Lane,
Edgware,
Barnet.

UK tax position of non-resident nationals working overseas is not that harsh

From M. C. Fitzpatrick

Sir, In "Working Overseas — if fortune calls" (Weekend Money, March 4) you comment on the UK tax position of a UK national who is working abroad and has become non-UK tax resident. Specifically, you imply that such an individual is unable to claim a UK personal tax allowance to set against his UK source income, such as dividends. Fortunately for UK nationals working overseas in such circumstances, you are incorrect. Such an individual can claim the UK personal tax allowance of (currently) £3,445 per annum, and can deploy it as follows against his UK source income:

1 Against income automatically taxed at source, such as UK dividends, in order to reclaim income tax from the UK Inland Revenue as appropriate; or

2 Against, say, UK rental income.

A tax planning point arises. An individual who is using part or all of his personal tax allowance in the way envisaged above will normally be well advised (at least from a UK tax viewpoint) to consider depositing any surplus cash outside the UK so that it becomes non-UK source income, rather than depositing it in the UK. By concession, the UK Inland Revenue does not pursue non-residents for any income tax liability arising on UK bank deposit interest paid gross to non-residents.

However, such income will be taken into account in determining the amount of UK personal tax allowance available for offset against other UK source income. In other words, the UK personal tax allowance of such an individual will be reduced by an amount equivalent to any gross UK bank deposit interest arising; such a restriction can be easily avoided by depositing the relevant funds outside the UK, provided this is commercially feasible.

The UK tax position of non-resident UK nationals working overseas is not as harsh as you indicated.

Yours faithfully,
M. C. FITZPATRICK
(Senior Tax Consultant),
Chantrey Vellacott,
Russell Square House,
10-12 Russell Square, WC1.

Forfeiture is best for the C&G dissidents

From Anita McGurk

Sir, I am appalled by the waste of money occasioned by the calling of a special meeting by disaffected Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society members. But I urge those satisfied with the offer, the best in the circumstances, to join me in returning the voting form now offered by the society in respect of the requisitioned special meeting on March 25. This is so they can vote against item 4, which would allow the return to the dissidents of their £10 deposits with the Cheltenham and Gloucester. After the drain on the society's resources — £500,000 has been mentioned — to set up this absurd venture, it adds insult to injury to expect their money back. Forfeiting it is the best way to persuade them of their foolishness and the futility of the exercise.

Yours sincerely,
ANITA J. McGURK,
26 William Street,
Edinburgh.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. *The Times* regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

BRIEFINGS

Direct Line, the mortgage-by-phone company, is going nationwide. Previously loans were offered only to existing customers. Direct Line, which has already built up a £100 million loan book, is offering a flat rate of 7.42 per cent, with no fees or penalties. Call 0181-649 9099.

■ Card Protection Plan has introduced an improved package and loss reporting service. The new features include £100 cover and assistance to replace passports and driving licences lost or stolen when abroad, as well as £100 cover to replace a handbag or wallet. A facility for emergency hotel bill payment, of up to £1,000, repayable within 28 days, is also available. At £8 a year, or £13 for a couple, the new policy enables holders to report missing cards to one central location. Cash or air ticket advances will also be made. Call 0800 33 00 00 00.

■ A free guide to pet care has been issued by Age Concern. As part of its service for older people, the guide offers useful tips on how to ensure your cat or dog lives a full and healthy life. The guide includes advice on grooming, veterinary care, and exercise. Age Concern has recently revamped its Pet Insurance Policy, and the cost of cover for cats has been reduced. The excess that customers pay for veterinary treatment has been changed from 10 per cent to a flat £25, and the insurance covers kennelling costs should the owner be in hospital for more than 96 hours. Call 0883 341122.

■ Britannia Building Society has launched a limited issue two-year fixed-rate bond, paying up to 8 per cent, 6 per cent net, with a monthly interest option. The minimum investment is £2,000, the maximum £500,000. Call 0800 269655.

Tessas tempt in £21bn of savings

MORE than £21 billion is now invested in Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts, Tessas to their many friends, including the Prime Minister, who thought up the idea during his time as Chancellor.

The attraction is tax-free interest, provided that you leave the capital untouched for five years. You can invest as much as £9,000, contributing £3,000 in the first year, £1,800 in the three subsequent years and £600 in the final year. The current Chancellor announced in his Budget last year that the first Tessas, taken out in January 1991, would have a new lease of life once they matured at the beginning of next year: the cash can be rolled over into a new Tessa, but the tax-free portion must be withdrawn.

At that time, some Tessas will look better than others.

As the table below, prepared by Moneyfacts, the savings information specialist, shows, the differences at the end of four years, were substantial. However, some investors, including Royal Bank of Scotland Tessa holders, will have the consolation of the final maturity bonus, not included in these figures.

THE BEST OF THE TESSAS

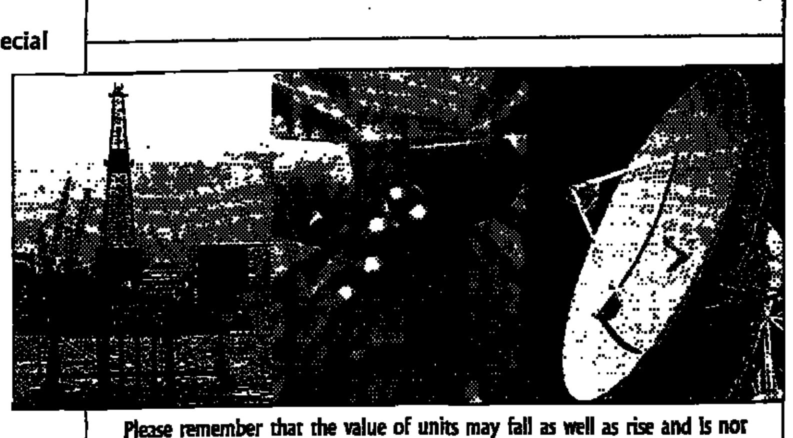
	Value after 4 years (31.12.94) (£)	Additional Maturity Bonds
National Counties BS	10,778.84	£100
Dunfermline BS	10,717.06	2% capital investment
Kent Reliance BS	10,700.61	10% of 1st yr investment
Darlington BS	10,691.02	-
West Bromwich BS	10,683.66	1% capital investment
Progressive BS	10,647.11	-
Cambridge BS	10,629.77	1% of 1st yr investment
Woolwich BS	10,614.31	0.25%
Marsden BS	10,613.99	-
Cheshire BS	10,608.05	-
Coventry BS	10,590.51	1% of final balance
Yorkshire BS	10,590.16	-
Leeds & Holbeck BS	10,583.08	0.5% of final balance
Nottingham BS	10,581.06	1% of 1st yr investment
N&P BS	10,574.81	0.5% interest bonus
Stroud & Swindon BS	10,568.11	-
Britannia BS	10,546.40	-
Principality BS	10,542.89	-
Birmingham Midshires BS	10,539.05	-
Furness BS	10,533.58	3.5% of total interest
C&G BS	10,518.16	-
Leek United BS	10,506.17	-
Skipton BS	10,493.03	4% of 1st yr investment
Lambeth BS	10,474.61	-
Abbey National	10,453.00	-
Nationwide BS	10,445.99	0.5% of final balance
Alliance & Leicester BS	10,445.60	-
Leeds Permanent BS	10,427.72	-
Halifax BS	10,422.00	0.25%-1.50% plus £100
TSB	10,408.79	5% of total interest
Bradford & Bingley BS	10,397.22	1% pa
Newcastle BS	10,386.58	1% of 1st yr investment
Norwich & Peterb'rgh BS	10,313.30	10% of 1st yr investment
Chelsea BS	10,355.84	5% of 1st year investment
Northern Rock BS	10,324.80	3% of 1st year investment
Bristol & West BS	10,293.64	£500
NatWest Bank	10,286.34	1% of 1st year investment
Portman BS	10,281.10	2% of total investment
Staffordshire BS	10,241.42	6% of 1st year investment
Midland Bank	10,208.25	-
Barclays Bank	10,200.10	-
Co-operative Bank	10,178.07	1% of 1st year investment
Lloyds Bank	10,168.46	-
Bank of Scotland	10,016.54	0.5% rte increase in yr 5
Royal Bank of Scotland	9,969.84	5% of final balance & 2% of 1st year investment
Derbyshire BS	9,908.48	50% of total interest

CGT ALLOWANCES — JANUARY 1995

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in January 1995

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
January	-	0.767	0.681	0.601	0.517	0.460	0.413
February	-	0.760	0.674	0.588	0.511	0.454	0.408
March	0.838	0.757	0.669	0.573	0.509	0.451	0.402
April	0.802	0.732	0.647	0.540	0.495	0.434	0.380
May	0.789	0.725	0.641	0.533	0.492	0.433	0.375
June	0.784	0.721	0.637	0.530	0.493	0.433	0.370
July	0.783	0.712	0.639	0.533	0.497	0.434	0.368
August	0.783	0.704	0.623	0.529	0.493	0.430	0.353
September	0.784	0.697	0.620	0.530	0.485	0.426	0.347
October	0.775	0.691	0.610	0.527	0.483	0.419	0.333
November	0.766	0.685	0.605	0.522	0.470	0.412	0.327
December	0.769	0.680	0.607	0.520	0.466	0.413	0.324
	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
January	0.315	0.222	0.121	0.077	0.059	0.033	
February	0.306	0.215	0.115	0.071	0.052	0.027	
March	0.300	0.203	0.111	0.068	0.048	0.025	
April	0.277	0.167	0.097	0.052	0.038	0.012	
May	0.270	0.157	0.094	0.048	0.035	0.009	
June	0.265	0.152	0.089	0.048	0.035	0.009	
July	0.264	0.151	0.091	0.052	0.038	0.014	
August	0.261	0.140	0.089	0.051	0.033	0.009	
September	0.252	0.129	0.085	0.047	0.029	0.007	
October	0.243	0.120	0.081	0.044	0.030	0.006	
November	0.232	0.123	0.077	0.045	0.031	0.005	
December	0.229	0.124	0.076	0.049	0.029	nil	

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.



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Europe		
TR European Growth Trust PLC	IT	1st out of 12 funds over 3 years
HTR European Special Situations	UT	1st out of 78 funds over 7 years
International		
Electric & General Investment Co plc	IT	1st out of 17 funds over 5 years
Henderson Strata Investments plc	IT	1st out of 17 funds over 5 years

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Source: Micropal to 1/2/95. All unit trust figures are on an offer to bid basis with net income reinvested. Investment trust figures are on a mid-market to mid-market basis with net income reinvested. Performance over 5 years: HTR Extra Income – 17 out of 32 funds in UK Balanced sector. HTR Income & Growth – 14 out of 84 funds in UK General sector. HTR UK Smaller Companies – 21 out of 53 funds in UK Smaller Companies sector. HTR European Special Situations – 3 out of 100 funds in Europe sector. Performance since launch: TR European Growth – 2 out of 11 funds in Europe sector, from 1/10/90. Other sector information as defined by AUTIF and AITC include: Electric & General (International Capital Growth) and Henderson Strata (Smaller Companies). Henderson Touche Remnant represents products offered by Henderson Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited and Henderson Financial Management Limited. Both are regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and have as their registered office 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA. Past performance is no guide to the future. The value of a PEP and the income from it can go down as well as up as a result of market and currency fluctuations and investors may not get back the amount invested. Taxes relating to PEPs may change if the law changes and the value of tax relief will depend upon your circumstances.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	157.50	166.69	- 2.70	0.25
Grofund Equity	223.80	238.10	- 1.70	2.18
Grofund Euro	190.90	202.00	- 4.20	0.83
Grofund Ext Bd	105.20	109.00	- 2.08	2.83
Grofund Gilt	72.31	74.54	- 0.52	5.66
Grofund Japan	151.60	160.50	- 1.00	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	505.70	538.00†	- 5.90	3.10
General Inc	440.50	469.10†	- 10.50	3.10
UK Growth Acc	340.40	362.30	- 4.50	3.11
UK Growth Inc	233.00	247.90	- 3.10	3.11
Higher Inc Acc	633.90	674.40	- 17.70	4.31
Higher Inc Inc	366.40	389.80	- 9.50	4.31
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	183.10	193.30†	- 1.80	6.10
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	86.77	91.65†	- 0.45	6.10
Nth America	260.90	277.80	+ 1.10	.
Far East	319.90	339.40	+ 1.90	0.37
Europe	260.10	276.80†	- 4.50	0.99
Brit Encall	67.61	71.93	- 0.85	3.33
Brit Fndmtls Acc	96.53	102.70†	- 2.30	5.11
Brit Fndmtls Inc	69.19	73.61†	- 3.35	5.11
Global Opps	79.74	84.83	- 0.04	0.42
Balanced Acc	51.33	54.61	- 0.63	3.30
Balanced Inc	50.08	53.28	- 0.62	3.30
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	124.70	132.30†	- 0.80	8.07
High Inc Equity	150.40	160.50	- 2.40	4.89
Worldwide Bond	285.20	301.60†	+ 4.30	5.40
Capital Growth				
American Growth	271.00	290.20	- 1.70	.83
Asian Pacific	282.80	300.80	- 7.70	.
Assets & Earnings	241.50	258.90	- 4.50	3.12
Comdty & Energy	93.40	99.36†	+ 0.44	.13
Euro Capital Inc	125.00	133.70	- 2.70	.73
(Accum Units)	133.50	142.70	- 2.90	.72
General	213.60	227.20†	- 3.30	2.39
Japan	111.00	118.70	+ 0.40	
Mastertrust	130.30	139.40	- 1.00	1.87
UK Growth Dist	109.00	116.60	- 0.70	3.12
US Emerging Cos	128.30	137.10	- 2.20	
Income & Growth	358.00	380.80	- 8.30	3.20
Ethical	63.20	67.23	- 0.53	3.20
International	103.30	109.90	- 2.40	1.06
Dividend & Growth	56.12	59.70	- 0.97	4.71
Global Gwth & Sec	66.43	70.85	+ 0.01	2.55
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.34	£16.68	+ 2.00	.
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	42.77	44.40	- 0.13	0.70
Cash	50.06	50.06†	+ 0.04	5.84
Emerging Mkts	58.47	61.96	- 3.40	0.06
European	104.90	109.78†	- 2.00	.
Exempt	899.90	970.00	- 11.60	1.92
Extra Income #	43.32	46.40†	- 1.20	6.50
Far East Emg Eco	103.40	109.60	- 2.70	0.57
Fixed Interest #	21.74	22.82†	- 0.21	9.06
Fund Inv Tst	153.60	161.70	- 3.30	1.04
Japan	163.30	171.20	+ 3.60	
Latin American	36.38	38.18	- 6.90	1.27
Pacific	65.56	69.06	- 0.61	0.78
Property Share	58.18	62.12	- 0.59	2.20
UK Emerging Cos	59.19	62.13	- 0.41	1.99
UK Growth	41.17	43.63	- 0.70	2.68
Com World Port #	67.43	68.50	- 0.81	2.39
Ethical	59.08	62.01	- 0.38	2.84
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	48.46	48.46†	- 0.12	7.74
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 549 3232				
British Growth	64.84	68.98†	- 0.56	3.00
British Income	75.55	80.38†	- 0.48	3.79
Select Portfolio	79.39	84.46†	- 0.90	..

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	638.50	638.60	+ 5.15	4.87
Fxd Int Sec	145.85	146.00	- 2.20	9.93
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0171 332 5000				
UK General Tst	58.48	62.19	- 0.82	3.20
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
0171 588 1815				
Inc	625.05	625.22	- 1.30	4.97
Accum	526.90	526.98	+ 47.80	
Fixed Int Inc	119.09	119.16	- 1.26	9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.60	- 0.35	
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
0171 837 7887				
Intl Growth	104.12	113.50	- 4.17	
UK Income	101.36	109.61	+ 0.76	5.47
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	72.71	77.23	- 3.27	1.57
Beck Bio-Tech	25.75	28.64	- 0.38	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	138.80	146.11	- 5.49	0.74
City Fin Assets	63.11	67.14	+ 0.38	1.24
City Fin America	78.93	84.14	- 4.14	..
City Fin Intl	68.73	72.35	- 1.93	1.0
City Fin Japan	147.95	155.74	+ 6.56	
Friars Hse Cap	259.82	280.98	+ 2.35	1.75
Friars Hse Inc	182.92	198.86	+ 1.61	4.24
Buckley Wrld Grth	111.25	118.35†	- 4.81	0.10
Fairtrust Cap Gilt	125.60	132.62	- 1.49	
Fairmount Intl	136.56	145.28	- 2.66	
City Fin Ptflo Inc	51.31	54.58	+ 0.23	4.51
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	47.67	50.58	- 2.37	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Grth	55.20	59.04	+ 0.24	
Atlas Mngd Grth	33.58	35.91	- 0.25	0.54
Dragon Growth	59.98	64.13	- 1.45	0.67
Equity High Inc	75.58	80.40†	- 1.51	4.39
(Accum Units)	102.40	108.94	- 2.04	4.39
European Grth	47.38	50.38	- 1.10	1.09
Evergreen	26.38	28.27	- 0.05	.
General Equity	77.27	81.98	- 0.95	3.03
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.83	25.04	- 0.17	8.29
Japan Growth	47.19	50.47	+ 1.06	
Pedigree Grth	46.80	49.79	- 0.33	2.92
Ped Sm Cos Inc	28.15	29.95	- 0.26	1.43
(Accum Units)	29.25	31.12	- 0.28	1.43
Retirement Inc #	23.64	25.15	- 0.49	6.34
Special Sits	34.86	37.08	- 0.47	2.20
UK & Overseas	43.97	46.78	- 0.47	1.51
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Capital	63.17	66.96†	- 0.36	2.37
Income	57.06	60.48†	- 0.57	4.37
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	146.32	156.66	- 1.11	6.74
Fixed & Convertible	37.98	40.48	- 0.50	7.61
Monthly Inc Plus	45.90	48.83	- 0.43	9.18
Preference Share	44.85	47.71	- 0.21	7.74
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	112.45	119.63	- 1.13	7.79
Managed Fund	63.31	67.35	- 0.51	3.13
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.72	38.00	+ 0.06	1.79
(Accum Units)	40.87	43.48	+ 0.07	1.79
UK & General	72.52	77.15	- 1.12	2.87
(Accum Units)	90.76	96.55	- 1.42	2.87
UK Growth	131.68	140.09	- 0.57	2.43
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	175.05	186.22	- 3.44	0.27
Far Eastern Grth	115.94	123.34	- 0.50	
Global Bond	76.31	81.10	+ 0.60	6.24
Japan Growth	109.97	116.99	+ 2.22	
North Amer Grth	161.32	171.62	+ 0.65	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	43.79	46.06	- 1.01	3.53
-do- Inv Tst Inc	68.70	72.24†	- 0.69	4.07
Intl Growth	62.22	65.43	- 3.35	...
Investment Trust	62.05	65.28†	- 1.37	.
UK Smaller Cos	75.77	79.67	- 0.17	1.03
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 374 4100				
American Growth	53.73	57.51†	+ 0.66	.
(Accum Units)	53.73	57.51†	+ 0.66	..
Amer Smlr Cos	459.70	491.70	+ 3.00	.
(Accum Units)	469.60	502.20	+ 2.90	
Capital Tst	281.70	299.60	- 2.10	1.61
(Accum Units)	402.20	427.70	- 3.20	1.61
Cont Smlr Cos	57.29	61.46	+ 0.04	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.35	64.63	+ 0.04	0.50
Convertible	117.20	124.70	- 1.50	5.87
(Accum Units)	236.90	252.80	- 2.90	5.87
Emerging Markets	57.80	61.53	- 3.38	
(Accum Units)	57.85	61.58	- 3.38	
European	110.50	117.10	- 2.80	0.14
(Accum Units)	115.70	122.70	- 2.60	0.14
Extra Income	304.50	323.80†	- 3.30	4.15
(Accum Units)	457.40	486.40†	- 5.00	4.15
Financial	115.70	124.80	- 1.00	0.30
(Accum Units)	121.90	131.40	- 1.20	0.30
Gilt Trust	60.52	62.41	- 0.47	6.37
(Accum Units)	84.52	87.17	- 0.63	6.37
Health Fund Inc	130.70	139.60	+ 1.10	.
(Accum Units)	130.70	139.60	+ 1.10	
Income & Growth	174.30	185.40	- 2.80	3.32
(Accum Units)	263.20	280.00	- 3.90	3.32
Inv Growth	334.20	358.10	+ 0.30	
(Accum Units)	371.10	397.60	+ 0.30	.
Japan & Gen	158.40	169.10†	+ 1.80	
(Accum Units)	160.00	170.80†	+ 1.80	
Monthly Inc	148.70	158.10†	- 3.20	4.23
Managed Port Inc	96.14	101.20	- 1.29	1.52
(Accum Units)	102.00	107.40	- 1.10	1.52
Quarterly Income	48.78	51.88†	- 0.33	4.88
(Accum Units)	52.36	55.69†	- 0.35	4.88
Recovery	318.20	338.10†	+ 0.90	0.13
(Accum Units)	372.20	397.90†	+ 0.90	0.13
UK Growth	49.84	53.35	- 0.79	2.79
(Accum Units)	51.56	55.10	- 0.81	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Income #	290.65	310.70†	- 4.21	4.48
Extra Income #	255.46	271.87†	- 3.41	6.34
Pref & Gilt	45.58	48.99†	- 0.27	8.97
International				
International	243.03	258.89	- 2.84	0.62
Global Bond	51.00	54.13†	- 0.06	6.25
Intl Port Tst	75.01	80.22	- 1.36	0.32
Global Tech	152.35	162.93	+ 2.73	..
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	157.19	168.09	- 2.24	0.30
European	440.16	465.44	- 6.01	0.52
European Income	76.04	80.45†	- 0.86	2.74
Euro Smlr Cos	148.23	158.90	- 0.02	0.15
Eur Sp Sits	65.96	70.59	- 0.18	0.30
(Accum Units)	71.09	75.62	- 0.19	0.30
Japan Trust	194.13	206.67	- 2.85	...
Japan Special Sits	214.22	228.33	- 2.96	.
Pacific Smlr Cos	220.46	235.89	- 2.28	.
North American	225.36	240.26	- 0.05	0.44
American Smaller	102.38	109.44	+ 1.28	.
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	54.31	57.56	+ 0.59	.
Eur Sp Sits	57.20	60.63	- 0.15	.
General Growth	40.84	43.29	- 0.28	...
Income Growth	39.42	41.78	- 0.49	..
Japan Growth	23.78	25.20	- 0.35	.
Smaller Cos	20.45	21.67	- 0.08	
Special Opps	27.27	28.90	- 0.10	
Wwide Sp Sits	44.32	46.97	- 0.50	
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	90.38	94.63	- 0.99	2.27
Capital	158.80	168.20†	- 1.70	1.71
Dollar	334.50	350.29	+ 2.20	0.16
Enterprise Gth	296.60	309.50†	- 4.00	2.00
European	209.38	219.10	- 2.80	0.72
Far East	282.70	298.00	- 0.18	0.49
Financial	751.10	788.40	- 5.10	1.88
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.60	25.58	- 0.27	7.70
High Yield	95.61	100.10	- 1.90	4.35
Income & Growth	132.20	138.40	- 1.60	3.66
International	234.60	245.60	- 0.70	0.05
Japanese General	188.80	197.80	+ 2.80	.
Japan Tech	76.23	79.82	+ 0.33	
Nat Resources	64.39	64.41	- 2.13	..
Portfolio	67.08	70.25	- 0.46	1.48
Smaller Cos	118.00	123.50	- 0.20	1.59
Special Sits	138.10	144.60†	- 3.10	1.59
UK Emerging Cos	86.88	90.97	- 0.47	0.95

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Euro Smaller Cos	27.18	28.21	- 0.11	
French Growth	69.81	72.46†	- 1.07	0.37
Accum Units	74.89	77.73†	- 1.15	0.37
H Kong & China	68.69	71.30	- 2.22	2.09
Intl Growth	53.03	55.04	- 0.45	0.72
(Accum Units)	53.48	55.51	- 0.44	0.72
Japan Gth	30.34	31.49	+ 0.59	
Accum Units	30.34	31.49	+ 0.59	..
Japan Smaller Cos	37.03	38.43	+ 1.12	..
Glob Emg Mkts	78.49	81.47	- 5.69	..
Accum Units	79.05	82.05	- 5.72	
SE Asia	286.30	297.10†	- 5.80	0.52
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	52.56	54.15†	+ 0.87	5.99

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Smaller Cos	64.60	68.30†	- 0.10	3.32
(Accum Units)	128.80	136.20	- 0.20	3.32
Sterling Hi Int	23.73	23.89	- 0.26	8.98
Treasury	25.05	25.09†	+ 0.03	6.23
Trustee	38.50	40.70	- 0.50	4.74
(Accum Units)	155.10	164.20	- 2.10	4.74
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	75.56	80.38	- 1.31	1.33
Intl Bond	61.92	65.12	- 0.82	5.92
Intl Equity Growth	65.93	70.13	- 0.39	0.83
N Amer Growth	90.98	96.78†	- 0.35	1.17
Special Sits Growth	19.82	21.08†	- 0.18	1.78

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
American Cap	129.20	137.40	- 1.20	.
Income	138.44	147.27	- 2.39	4.14
UK Growth	51.06	54.31	- 0.67	0.64
International	69.44	73.87†	- 1.47	0.08
Ecology	74.99	79.77	- 0.93	1.35
European	118.60	125.99	- 0.92	
Far Eastern	268.10	285.20	- 6.00	..
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealer: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	46.17	49.12†	- 0.56	7.84
Gilt Yield	110.80	116.80†	- 0.70	6.85
Global Income	196.20	208.70†	- 3.00	4.33

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth	344.10	366.00	- 3.10	2.97
(Accum Units)	448.80	477.40	- 4.00	2.97
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.28	£12.52	- 4.90	3.40
Income #	926.30	941.60	- 1.20	4.60
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	135.40	139.60	.	4.37
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD				
Dealings: 01438 747 414				
Growth Units	184.20	197.00	- 2.90	2.59
Gilt & Fxd Int	162.00	170.70	- 1.50	7.08

Shares close near best of the day

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Nat	437	-5	5.2	9.2
314	233	Allied Irish	258		5.5	9.9
278¾	171	Ans New Z	214		5.5	7.6
2380	2462½	Bank America†	2900	+12½		
247	172½	Bank Scotland	210	+8	3.2	11.8
640	487	Barclays	604½	+5½	4.4	8.7
319	248	Bk of Ireland	300		4.8	8.7
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2537½	+50		
285½	203	Close Bros	238		4.2	10.6
£150¼	£121¼	Commerzbk	£149¾	+225	6.0	..
1296¼	989¾	Dai Ich Kan Y	1165¾	+18¾	0.5	
£344¾	£270¾	Deutsche Bk	£308¾	-209¾	2.4	
1315¾	825	Espirito Santo	681¼	+15¼	12.1	
90	57	First Nat Fin†	72		2.6	46.0
1549¾	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1365½	-6½	0.4	
473	185	Hambros	199	+1	9.4	12.2
1113	588	HSBC	656	+14	5.3	8.0
1133	578	HSBC HK	647	+12	5.4	7.9
443	383	Joseph (L)	383		5.8	11.1
693	424	Kleinwort Bens†	574	+8	4.7	11.2
668	519	Lloyds†	566	-13	5.7	9.5
820¾	472	Nat Aust Bk	494		7.1	8.3
622	421	Nat West†	495	+1	5.5	8.0
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375		6.1	5.7
79	53	Rea Bros	58		2.0	16.2
528	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	410	+5	4.2	11.7
1574	1050	Schroders	1428	+30	1.6	13.1
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1288	+25	1.8	11.8
114	75	Singer & Fried	82		4.8	10.6
359¾	223	Stand Chart	270	+3	3.8	8.0
281	197	TSB†	229	-2	4.9	9.8
1012	569	Warburg SG	896	+7	4.0	12.7
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9700	-62½	3.0	...
280	194	Westpac	224¾	+6	2.5	
390	203	Wintrust†	215		6.2	14.4

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	145	Ascot Hldgs	148			
619	465	Bass	499	+9	5.3	12.3
290	230	Boddington	246		4.6	12.4
196	168	Burtonwd Brw	170		3.8	14.2
191	142	Eldridge P 'A'	155		3.3	18.8
86	45¾	Fosters Brewing	54		5.2	13.6
403	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	348	+3	2.8	14.4
511	389	Greenalls Grp	405		4.0	13.3
584	452	Greene King	471		3.5	12.8
287	238	Hardy Hansn	256	+1	4.6	12.4
179	135	Heavitree	156		3.6	
3775	3125	Holt J	3380		1.8	18.6
248	195	Mansfield	232		2.5	14.2
314	256	Marston Thmp	272	+3	2.8	13.2
545	425	Morland	430		3.1	12.9
10½	6½	Paramount	6¾		4.6	15.9
329	209	Regent Inns†	328		2.2	18.7
1665¾	1000	SA Breweries	1631¼		1.7	26.3
591	477	Scot & New	493	+2½	4.4	14.1
306	212	Vaux Group	213	+1	5.8	12.0
500	324½	Wetherspoon JD	500	+1	1.7	27.5
617	494	Whitbread	539	+7	4.5	14.4
589	483	Wolvrhmptn D	489	+1	3.6	12.7
208	148	Yates Bros	201		2.4	15.8
535	450	Young 'A'	463		4.0	19.6

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	94	ABI Lees	94	..	5.4	10.8
317	248	Acal	294		3.0	15.9
505	253	Adam & Harvey	545		3.6	6.8
31	19	Alexanders†	19		6.6	9.1
175	88	Appleyard	93		7.8	16.4
6	3½	Ass Br Eng	3¾		1.7	26.8
578	495	BSS Group	532		4.3	18.8
25½	17	Bearing Power	20½		6.1	10.5
40	26	Boyd 'A'	26	-2	3.4	11.0
370	285	Brammer	349		4.7	19.4
31	12	Bridgend Gp	14		1.8	72.8
99	78	Bell Fittings	94	...	3.0	
71	36	Brown & Tawse	36			
57	35	Burndene	38		6.3	-
485	245	Caffyns	245	...	5.9	40.2
59	12	Casket Plc	17½		7.9	9.7
130	66	Central Mot	67		5.1	44.6
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35		4.1	10.7
342¾	197½	Cowie†	244	+1	4.7	
192¾	136	Dag Motors	126	-2	6.4	14.5
663	446	Dencora B	588		1.4	14.5
629	414½	Diploma	415	-3	4.1	14.6
589	443	Electrocomponents	492	-7	2.6	20.2
175	133	Electron House†	153		2.9	12.9
283	225	Ellis & Everard†	244		4.0	16.2
234	193	Eurodollar	193		5.5	15.1
173	87	European Mtr	90	+3	6.3	9.8
539¾	368	Evans Halshaw	368		4.8	11.6
656	490½	Farnell Elect	540	-1	1.9	22.2
78	50	Fife Indmar	53		6.5	7.6
34	15	Gardiner†	20		5.0	
46	16	Glenchewton	16			17.7
90	60	Gowrings	71		3.5	21.5
76	59	Hallin Hldgs	62			48.4
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168		5.1	14.7
342¾	258	Henlys	284		3.8	
197	87	Holders Tech	87	...	8.6	9.4
138	98	ISA Intl	98		2.2	12.2
609	288	Inchcape	313	-6	6.0	10.4
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	144	+1	3.5	16.5
573	377	Lex Service	300	+3	6.0	15.5
282	162	Lookers	172		5.6	8.2
30	14	Malaya Gp	14		2.2	
9	3½	Middlesex ©	6¾			
440	279	Norton	380		0.7	17.0
100	47	Northamber	87		1.9	36.9
175	152	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
310	225	Pendragon	226		4.1	14.9
238	124	Perry Gp	124		7.1	6.8
218	126	Quicks Group	135		4.9	14.2
166	97	REA	162		4.6	33.5
5¼	2¾	Reece	2¾			
24	2½	Ross Gp	3¼		7.7	
45½	32½	SEP Indty	45½	+½	2.9	
44	31	TLS Range	40		3.1	16.1
265	215	Time Products	227		4.8	15.3
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	178		3.7	13.1
335	240	Wholesale Fitgs†	243		6.0	21.7
30½	13½	Wills Gp	#14½		4.3	8.1
74½	39¾	Wilshaw	71½	+2½	1.1	24.1
68	37¾	Wyko▼	66		1.9	23.8
96	81	Young (H)	75		6.0	14.0

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
20½	11	Locker (T) A	12		4.2	
49	29	ML Hldgs†	29	..	3.7	10.1
67	21	MS Intl	21		8.9	12.7
179	129	Mang Bronze	154		3.2	12.0
539	378	McKechnie	391	+1	4.7	23.0
120	61	Meggitt	79		6.2	12.7
120	101	Metalrax	108		4.3	17.9
133	99	Metsec	131		2.9	18.2
589	487	Molins	490		4.0	9.9
408	293	Morgan Cble	302	-7	5.3	14.7
217	176	Morris Ashby†	194		4.0	14.0
51	33	Neepsend	33		4.7	16.6
128	48	Neotronics	68		3.1	18.8
60	40	Newman (L)	40			
59¾	15	OMI Intl	15½		14.1	68.2
358	277	Oxford Instr	319	-1	2.0	18.8
341	218	Powerscreen	249	+½	3.8	10.5
23¼	12½	Prospect Indst	12¾	-¼	8.7	6.3
108	60	Ratcliff Metal	73			
71	13	Ransomes	53			
95	70	Record	84		5.5	
291	243½	Renishaw	290		2.8	22.8
192	126	Renold	189		2.0	28.2
73	50	Ricard (Lancs)	50		5.6	35.8
104½	73	Richardson West	73		5.5	16.0
204	148	Rolls-Royce	159	+9½	4.0	23.6
195	156	Rotork	161		3.4	16.4
190	134	Rubicon†	155	-3	3.9	25.3
150½	67	Senior Eng	72½		5.9	11.8
270	245	Servomex	266		3.1	28.4
630	498	Siebe†	523	+8	2.7	16.8
130½	74	Simon Eng	81			
82	35	Six Hundred	80		2.3	37.6
1459¾	1031¼	SKF 'B'	1271¼	+146¼		
527¾	411	Smiths Ind	439	+2	3.7	16.9
465	337	Spirax-Sarco	432		2.9	18.4
267	197	Sterling Ind	233		3.8	15.1
455	328	TI	343	+6	4.5	15.4
121	92	Tinsley (E)	97		7.2	13.2
105	45	Transfer Tech	58	+1	7.1	8.3
163	125	Triplex Lloyd	128	..	6.8	
18½	12	Ultra Inds	14		0.9	
1548	980	VSEL	1505	+7	2.9	14.1
31½	11½	Verson	12½			
204	162	Vickers	179	+1	3.4	17.0
327	230	Victaulic	242	-1	4.6	*
19	8½	Villiers Grp	8½			
531	451	Vinten	508	-1	2.0	13.3
805	661	Vosper Thorny	741	-1	3.2	16.0
527	444	Wagon Ind	447		5.1	22.7
354¼	222	Weir	230		3.6	13.7
46½	35	Wellman	39½		3.2	54.5
548	365	Whatman	453		2.9	16.6
264	90	Whessoe	122	..	2.4	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	ANF Inds	36			
160	108	AirFlow Stream	157		3.2	15.4
639	440	Avon Rubber	445		4.6	16.0
238	173	BBA	195	+2	3.1	
86½	49½	BSG	56	+1	7.1	35.0
18½	8½	Benson Group	8¾	-¼	5.1	11.8
306	180	Bostrom	298		2.5	17.0
28½	17	Boustead†	22		5.7	*
22	10	Clarendale	11½		1.6	11.7
357	275	ERF	356	...	1.4	
400	286	First Tech	396		1.7	22.8
660	510½	GKN	594	+15	4.6	17.7
4387½	2337½	General Mtrs	2550	+37½	2.0	
1239	918½	Honda Motor	970¼	-22¾	0.5	

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
219	172	Bankers	174½		2.8	
75¼	32	Baring Em Eu	34½	+1	0.4	
387	300	Barng Tribne†	308	-1	2.7	*
248	198	Berry Starq	218	-2	1.3	*
91½	84½	Br Assets†	85½	+½	6.3	
98	83	Br Empire Sec	83½		1.4	
46	25	Br Empire Wts	36			
234	188	Br Inv	200		3.1	
105¼	63¼	Brazilian	78½	+1¼	0.4	
272	211	Brunner†	211	-2	3.3	
161	117	BZW Com	126½		7.8	
376	310	Candover	372		3.8	
65	40	Central Euro Grth	40		1.4	*
271	144	China & Eastern	147	-3	3.0	
223	161	Contl Assets†	161	-6	2.3	
95	76	Dartm Inv Inc	76		13.1	
328	268	Derby Cap	278	-2		
173	147	Derby Inc	156		13.6	
100	51	Drayton Blue	51	-2	20.6	
111	84	Drytn Eng Intl	93		1.1	
156	122	Drytn Far East†	132½	+1	0.6	*
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	623		5.3	
108	75	Dunedin Japan	75½	-1		
341	292	Dunedin Smlr	299		3.8	*
80	22	Dunedin Wts	26	-1		
827	678	Dunedin Wwde	681	+3	1.7	
122	82¾	Edin Dragon	92	-½		
53½	23½	Edinburgh Inca	24½		0.3	
360	281	Edinburgh	285	+2	3.9	
179	130	EFM Japan	136	-2		
354	286	Electra Inv	312	+2	2.9	
220	180	Electric Gen	180	-1	2.3	
201	169	Eng & Caledon†	174		2.9	
127	106	English Scott	110	+½		
345	273	European Asset	277	-3	2.3	*
174	145	Fidelity Euro Val	147½	-2	0.3	*
103½	65	Fidelity Jap Val	68	-1	0.2	*
172	146	Finsbury 'A'	149		2.5	
86	62	First Spanish	62		0.5	
343	267	Fleming Amer†	271	+½	0.8	*
145	51½	Fleming Chinese	59½		1.1	
92	22	Fleming Ch Wts	28	-1		
267	196	Fleming Claver	200	-1	3.5	
385	288½	Fleming Cont†	289	-5	1.0	
210½	125	Fleming Em Mkts	127	-1		
264	190	Fleming Enipt	199		3.0	
459	278½	Fleming F East	298½	-½	0.6	
422	327	Fleming Fledgt	327	-2	1.1	*
120	89	Fleming Hi Inc†	91½		6.0	
109	68	Fleming Indian	71	+1	1.6	
84	33	Fleming In Wts	40	+1		
52½	29	Fleming Intl	29½		15.1	
384	208	Fleming Japan	220	-1½		
347	257	Fleming Merc	257		3.3	
94	75	Fleming Mid Res	75			
347¼	289	Fleming Overs†	373	+1	1.9	
155½	124	Foreign & Col	130	+¼	1.7	*
106	91	For & Col Inc Grwt	91		2.9	
148	93	Frgn Emg Mkts	93½	-1		
77	64½	Frgn Enterprise†	70½	+½	1.4	*
261	206	Frgn Eurotst	208	-2	0.7	
145	114	Frgn German	122	-1	0.5	
374	277	Frgn Pacific	291	+1	1.1	
144	116	Frgn PEP	120½	...	3.6	
182	153	Frgn Smaller	154½		1.7	
120	90	Frgn US Smlr	94½	+½		
28½	18½	Fulcrum Cap	18½			
54	39	Fulcrum Inct	39		27.8	
146	134½	Fulcrum Zero	144½	+½		
273	188	Gartmore Brit	195		4.7	
151	124	Gartmore Euro	136	-2	0.8	
130	84	Gartmore Shrd†	84		14.3	
247	201	G'more Smlr Cos	207		3.5	

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
68	54	Murray Euro†	56½	-½	0.8	*
23½	13	Murray Eu Wts	13½			
390	308	Murray Income	311	+1	4.9	
395	296	Murray Intl	312		5.1	
184¼	153	Murray S/C DP	162½	-½		
174	126	Murray S/C Cap	126			
97	73½	Murray S/C Inc†	74		17.9	
3400	2850	Murray S/C Ucst	2925		4.5	
548	376	Murray Small	376	-2	1.5	
363	302½	Murray Vent	327		4.4	

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	13	I&S Eff	13			
119	93	I&S UK Smlr	94		3.7	
129	119	Inv Cap	120½	+½	5.4	
99	84	Inl Biotech	84			
50	26	Inl Wts	26			
177	136	INVESCO Korea	127			
122	82	J Fry 2nd Ut	83		8.9	
100	84	J Fry Euro U	84	-1	7.4	
255	177	JF Fledg Jap	188	-1		
121	99	Jupiter Intl Grn†	99		4.3	
243	194	Klewt Chrt†	198½	+½	3.2	
149	97	Klewt E Mkt	101	+1		
124	105	Klewt End	111			
89½	73	Klewt Euro Prvt	74¼	+¼	1.3	
49	32½	Klewt Euro Wts	23½	+½		
116	77	Klewt H Inc†	78		12.8	
272½	213	Klewt O'seas†	219	+3½	1.9	
165	115	Klewt Smlr	115		3.4	
201	71	Latin American	73¼	-1¼		
826	672	Law Debenture	732	-3	3.3	
129	93	Lazard H Inc†	95		8.4	
97	77	Lloyds Sm Cap	78			
35	28	Lloyds Sm Div	28		17.5	
129	104	Lloyds Sm Pkg	104	-1	4.5	
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	164		4.8	
108	78½	Lon Smaller Co's	81		4.9	
334	265	Lowland	284		4.1	

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
7¼	2½	Brent Walker	2½		...	...
200	100	Bristol Scotts	175	-3	2.1	
7¼	¾	Buckingham Int	¾		...	
256	114	Chrysalis	258			
94	71	City Centre Rest	72	+1	3.1	14.8
374	305	Compass Grp†	315	+3	2.7	16.4
290	232	Eurocamp†	263	+9	5.0	11.7
213	78	Euro Disney	151	-1		
4	2	Euro Leisure	2½			
455	308	Fairline Boats†	414		4.7	19.1
131	81	First Choice†	109		4.4	28.5
350	245	First Leisure†	276	...	3.2	17.5
285	209½	Forte	231	..	4.1	27.3
207	160	Friendly Hotels	160		4.5	26.8
79	49	GR Hldgs	55		2.5	
568	475	Granada†	504	+5	2.5	16.0
118	95	Groupe Chez Ger	108			14.9
96	27	Hi-Tec Sports	27	-2	12.9	4.9
216	101	Hornby	101	-5	11.1	8.8
187½	142½	Jarvis Hotel	178¾	-4½	3.8	16.2
18¾	11¾	Kunick†	17½		3.6	20.1
299	200	London Clubs	285		5.6	13.5
217½	145	Ladbroke	170	+1	4.5	..
104	49	Magnolia	49	...	6.3	
140½	107½	Man Utd	124		4.2	20.0
108¾	64¾	Mandarin Orntl	77¾	+2¾	4.2	19.9

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
206	133	Border TV†	187	..	2.7	17.2
413	353	Bristol	353		4.4	35.9
279	244	B Sky B	265	+2		48.0
169	117½	CIA Gp	137	...	1.6	22.2
26½	22½	Caledonian Med	23	...	...	...
439	325½	Capital Radio	360	-1	2.5	22.4
1047	797	Carlton Comm†	872½	+8½	3.0	16.0
99	76	City of Lon	86	...	6.4	13.1
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1390½		1.5	23.6
1484¾	858¾	Daily Mail 'A'	1040¾	-6¼	2.0	17.6
329	260	Dorling Kind	296		1.4	31.7

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1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
347	345	Natl Express	318	.	3.0	18.4
348	244	Ocean Group	261	-2	6.9	13.2
91	56	Ocean Wilson	72	...	5.6	10.4
743	549	P & O Dfd	561½	+4½	6.8	17.4
209	153	P & O 5.5%	171	..	4.0	
102	84	Seacont†	89		3.4	46.0
238	158	Stagecoach	215	+6	2.5	21.4
131	83	TNT	85	...		
915	590	Tibbet & Britn	590	..	3.1	15.1
327	184	TDG	202	+1	6.1	12.8
136	98	Uplead	117	...	2.6	*
160	75	Utd Carriers	90	..	2.2	..

WATER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian	465½	-2½	6.3	10.5
365	283	Mid Kent Hldgs	347	...	4.3	11.7
671	454	North West	510	+1	5.8	7.3
890	508	Northumbrian	819	-1	3.9	8.8
645	457	Severn Trent†	494	-3	5.8	8.2
2065	1525	South Staffs	2065	.	3.3	12.4
675	459	South West†	477	-3	6.9	7.1
682	466	Southern†	534	.	5.6	7.7
611	434½	Thames	471	-1	6.2	7.1
744	546	Welsh	580	-4	5.8	8.5
379¾	255½	Wessex†	268	+1	5.7	7.0
630	458	Yorkshire	501	-1	5.9	7.4

Source: Finstat

© USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Country Member, right, jumps the last with Buckboard Bounce before winning the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown yesterday

Country Member on Aintree trail

By Julian Muscat

THE records will show that Cuddy Dale came up short when attempting to give the Queen Mother a record fifth victory in the Horse and *Hound Grand Military Gold* Cup at Sandown yesterday. However, if the gallery went home slightly disappointed, the records suggest they may just have seen the Grand National winner.

*Andy Turnell used this his*toric steeplechase to prepare Maori Venture for his Aintree victory in 1987. And he was quick to make the point after Country Member, handled competently throughout by Major Oliver Ellwood, came again at the final fence to collar Buckboard Bounce for *his fourth* victory over *the* course and distance.

"*It is an unusual way to go,*" Turnell said. "But the race conditions were very attractive for a horse like him." Country Member has been allocated 9st 9lb for the Grand National, his next port of call. As *Turnell observed, the defec*tion of Master Oats and Jodami, due for a gruelling encounter in the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Thursday, would elevate Country Member into a serious contender.

Country Member's owner, Sue Williams, was understandably delighted with her *charge. The horse qualified for* this race through Williams serving with the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. "I was commissioned and joined up in 1939, when I didn't know the difference between an air marshal and a pilot officer," she recalled in the winner's enclosure.

Turnell, for his part, wore something of a sheepish grin, as Country Member's defeat of Buckboard Bounce consigned one of Turnell's most prominent owners, Robert Ogden, to the runners-up berth. The Wantage trainer has an early opportunity to *make amends:* he saddles Squire Silk (County Hurdle) and Maitre De Musique (Bumper) for Ogden at the Cheltenham Festival.

The Queen Mother's representative, Cuddy Dale, jumps with a rare flourish. Nicky Henderson, who has freshened the horse since his lease *from Geoff Hubbard in Janu*ary, said Cuddy Dale would probably contest the John Hughes Memorial Chase over the Aintree fences. If, in yesterday's mood, Cuddy Dale might just take those formidable obstacles apart.

Another drying day at Cheltenham has generated optimism among the executive that the ground will ride little worse than soft when the tapes rise on Tuesday.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: AIR SHOT
(1.30 Chepstow)
Next best: Shamarphil
(2.0 Chepstow)

Greenall's mount breathes easier

By Brian Beel

THE *Johnny Greenall-rid*den Life Of A King put his breathing problems behind him to run out an easy winner of The Times Rising Stars qualifier at Market Rasen yesterday.

He had pulled up in a point-to-point at Cottenham on his only other outing this season and ended last year being pulled up twice, gurgling, after an early-season success.

He was operated on in the close season and although coming *in blowing, this was* probably because Caroline *Saunders, his trainer,* has been unable to give him as much work as she would have liked. "He gets splints if we work him on heavy ground," she said.

It is not often that horses *ridden* by Greenall are weak in the market but Life Of A King drifted from even money to 6-4 as Tattlejack was backed down to 11-8 favourite.

Politico Pot fell at the *sixth,* but Tattlejack could never muster an effective challenge against the winner. His jumping let him down, which allowed Life Of A King to coast home by a distance.

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

1.00 Kentish Piper
1.30 Air Shot
2.00 Northants
2.30 Le Khoumf
3.00 Old Bridge
3.35 With Impunity

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.30 Prime Of Life.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS

1.00 MITIE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE — BBC1

(£4,695: 2m 3f 110yd) (4 runners)

1 41323-5 SMARTIE EXPRESS 16 (D,F,G,S) (S Norman) R Hodges 13-12-0 .... R Dunwoody 98
2 102-2F4 KENTISH PIPER 21 (F,G,S) (Mrs T Perkins) N Gaselee 10-11-11 .... C Llewellyn [illegible]
3 2/1P-426 *OK CORRAL 44 (B,C,F,G,S) (The Toffy Partnership) C Mann 8-10-6* .... A Maguire 94
4 340-543 BARELY BLACK 14 (S) (J Cantrill) N Babbage 7-10-0 .... W Humphreys 88

Long handicap: Barely Black 9-1

BETTING: 5-4 Kentish Piper, 2-1 OK Corral, 3-1 Smartie Express, 16-1 Barely Black.

1994: RAFIKI 9-10-12 S Burrough (11-10) Mrs J Retter 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

SMARTIE EXPRESS 79l 5th of 6 to Mr Flanagan in a handicap chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, soft). Earlier 6½l 3rd of 11 to Midfielder in a handicap chase at Stratford (3m 4f, good to soft). KENTISH PIPER best effort this term 5l 2nd of 6 to Midnight Caller in a handicap chase at Newbury (3m, heavy). OK CORRAL 10l 2nd of 7 to Percy Smollett in a handicap chase at Ludlow (3m, soft) on penultimate start. BARELY BLACK 50l last of 3 to Sweet Duke in a conditions chase at Haydock (2m 4f, heavy).
Selection: OK CORRAL

1.30 BEAUFORT NOVICES HURDLE — BBC1

(5-Y-O: £13,875: 3m 110yd) (10 runners)

1 511242 AIR SHOT 21 (D,BF,G,S) (Mrs P Prowting) D Nicholson 11-5 .... A Maguire 98
2 542123 CHALLENGER DU LUC 49 (B,BF,S) (J & J Securities Ltd) M Pipe 11-5 .... R Dunwoody [illegible]
3 042244 FREDDIE MUCK 21 (Mrs C Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 11-5 .... C Llewellyn 75
4 2244 LATEST THYNE 31 (S Sainsbury) T Forster 11-5 .... G McCourt 74
5 541144 MORSTOCK 16 (D,G) (Mrs M Fairbairn) R Hodges 11-5 .... T Dascombe 90
6 322022 PRIME OF LIFE 18 (Mrs T Matthews) J Eustace 11-5 .... S McNeill 88
7 8103 STONEY VALLEY 14 (S) (Ellis & Partners Ltd) J Jenkins 11-5 .... A P McCoy 93
8 254F13 TEJANO GOLD 21 (D,S) (P Bradley) P Bradley 11-5 .... D Gallagher 91
9 006 DIP THE LIGHTS 26 (S Griffiths) S Griffiths 11-0 .... DOUBTFUL –
10 1261 HOME FROM THE HILL 16 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Manning) M Channon 11-0 .... A Thornton 96

BETTING: 7-2 Stoney Valley, 4-1 Air Shot, 5-1 Challenger Du Luc, 6-1 Home From The Hill, 8-1 Morstock, Prime Of Life, 10-1 Freddie Muck, 12-1 others

1994: RELKEEL 5-11-5 A Maguire (Evens fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

AIR SHOT 2½l 2nd of 8 to Treasure Again in a novice hurdle over course and distance (heavy) with FREDDIE MUCK (10lb worse off) 32l 4th. CHALLENGER *DU LUC 4l 3rd of 12 to Nahthen Lad in a* novice hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, heavy). LATEST THYNE 16½l 4th of 18 to Nissair in a maiden *hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to soft).* MORSTOCK 31l 4th of 7 to Alderbrook in the grade II KJ Pike Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft). PRIME OF LIFE 30l 2nd of 5 to Putty Road in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft). STONEY VALLEY 21l 3rd of 9 to Balanak in the grade II Dovecote Novices' Hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy). TEJANO GOLD beat Tristan's Comet 2½l in a handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m, soft) on penultimate start. HOME FROM THE HILL beat Tamergale 4l in a 30-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft).
Selection: AIR SHOT

2.00 *BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE* — BBC1

(Final: £13,875: 3m) (10 runners)

1 10-3131 NORTHANTS 12 (D,G,S) (C Rennison) W Storey 9-12-0 .... N Doughty [illegible]
2 041-115 SPECIAL ACCOUNT 30 (V,D,F,G,S) (T Fiorillo) C Barwell 9-11-4 .... A Maguire 95
3 24/3124 YEOMAN WARRIOR 35 (S) (Mrs H Alwen) R Rowe 8-11-2 .... R Dunwoody 95
4 3-PF11U JURASSIC CLASSIC 54 (BF,S) (B Seal) Mrs L Richards 8-10-10 .... M Richards 94
5 10-252U *A N C EXPRESS 68 (BF,S) (M O'Connor) J King 7-10-10* .... T Jenks 98
6 F12U32 ROCKY PARK 30 (S) (Mrs T Goale) G Balding 9-10-7 .... A P McCoy 98
7 3412F2 SHAMARPHIL 15 (F,S) (The Crosse Connection) K Bishop 9-10-5 .... D Fortt (5) 94
8 222004 ZAMIRAH 23 (F,G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-4 .... C Llewellyn 95
9 52P-4PF TEKLA 15 (S) (E Lodge) A Chamberlain 10-10-0 .... D Leahy (3) 93
10 3-1P2UF BADBURY LAD 33 (S) (C Cowley) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 9-10-0 .... S McNeill 93

Long handicap: Tekla 9-10, Badbury Lad 9-6

BETTING: 4-1 Rocky Park, 9-2 Northants, Yeoman Warrior, 6-1 Special Account, 7-1 Jurassic Classic, 8-1 A N C Express, Shamarphil, 16-1 Zamirah, 25-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

NORTHANTS beat Countorus 25l in a 4-runner novice chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). SPECIAL ACCOUNT, completed double, beat Cokenny Boy 10l in a 10-runner novice chase at Stratford (3m, good) on penultimate start. YEOMAN WARRIOR 3l 2nd of 8 to Montebel in a novice *chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) on* penultimate start. JURASSIC CLASSIC completed double beat Woodlands Boy 3l in a 9-runner novices' handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start with BADBURY LAD (3lb worse off) unseated rider 11th. A N C EXPRESS 2½l 2nd of 9 to Comer Boy in a novice chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good) on penultimate start. ROCKY PARK 15l 2nd of 14 to San Fernando in a novice chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, soft) with SPECIAL ACCOUNT (4lb worse off) 17l 5th. SHAMARPHIL 9l 2nd of 7 to The Frog Prince *in a novice chase at Kempton (3m, heavy)* with TEKLA (6lb better off) 3rd when fell 13th. ZAMIRAH about 40l 4th of 9 to Allo George in a novices' handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, heavy).
Selection: ROCKY PARK

2.30 CURRE JUVENILE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

(4-Y-O: £4,825: 2m 110yd) (7 runners)

1 6113 VERYVEL 29 (D,S) (D Lewis) R Simpson 12-0 .... K Dempsey (7) 98
2 U423 INCULCATE 14 (B,BF) (Swan Racing) C Weedon 11-11 .... D Fortt (5) 92
3 412224 IRKUTSK 52 (V,S) (Pond House Racing) M Pipe 11-8 .... R Dunwoody [illegible]
4 055 LE KHOUMF 14 (D Lewis) R Simpson 11-7 .... D Gallagher 93
5 025 KARLINE KA 16 (A Paton) R Dickin 10-11 .... D Meredith (3) 90
6 *640 MISS GRUNTLED 108 (Mrs M Duff) D Burchell 10-1* .... *A Maguire 90*
7 040 TURRET 14 (Ms T Harwell) R Brotherton 10-1 .... L Harvey 96

BETTING: 9-4 Inculcate, 11-4 Veryvel, 7-2 Irkutsk, 4-1 Le Khoumf, 8-1 Karline Ka, 12-1 Miss Gruntled, 14-1 Turret.

1994: RUSTY REEL 11-0 R Campbell (13-8) I Campbell 4 ran

3.00 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER

(Novices: £2,875: 2m 3f 110yd) (3 runners)

1 13FF51 OLD BRIDGE 9 (G,S) (K Mackenzie) A Turnell 7-11-10 .... S McNeill 88
2 1-21321 SPUFFINGTON 21 (CD,G,S) (J Clopet) J Gifford 7-11-10 .... E Murphy [illegible]
3 5P-165P HENRY VIII 63 (G) (Rambo Racing) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-2 .... T Jenks –

BETTING: Evens Spuffington, 6-4 Old Bridge, 9-2 Henry VIII.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

3.35 BERKELEY HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,825: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 630-030 JEASSU 35 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mills) A J Wilson 12-12-0 .... D Leahy (3) 91
2 *F-21306 MR PICKPOCKET 15 (D,S) (R Sayer) J Akehurst 7-10-11* .... *A Maguire 90*
3 4-124F2 WITH IMPUNITY 14 (D,G,S) (Guest Leasing) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-8 .... C Llewellyn 89
4 1141P1 DOUALAGO 9 (B,D,F,G,S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 5-10-3 .... R Dunwoody 96
5 F-030P5 MISS PURBECK 22 (G,S) (M Hill) Mrs J Retter 8-10-3 .... S Fox (5) [illegible]
6 326222 TIME FOR A FLUTTER 31 (G) (C James) C James 6-10-0 .... S McNeill 92
7 001045 BADRAKHANI 16 (G,S) (P Slade) C Nash 9-10-0 .... Pat Thompson (7) 81

Long handicap: Time For A Flutter 9-11, Badrakhani 9-2

BETTING: 9-4 With Impunity, 5-2 Doualago, 5-1 Time For A Flutter, 6-1 Jeassu, 7-1 Mr Pickpocket, 8-1 Miss Purbeck, 12-1 Badrakhani.

1994: SO PROUD 9-11-10 C F Swan (5-4 fav) M Pipe 5 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Nicholson	*10*	*33*	*30.3*	*A P McCoy*	*3*	*6*	*50.0*
M Pipe	57	219	26.0	R Dunwoody	25	98	25.5
Mrs J Retter	5	23	21.7	G McCourt	4	17	23.5
R Rowe	3	15	20.0	M Richards	3	18	16.7
N Twiston-Davies	16	81	19.8	A Maguire	10	62	16.1
T Forster	9	57	15.8	L Harvey	6	46	13.0

☐ Ladbrokes make the Jim Dreaper-trained Harcon and Martin Pipe's Banjo 7-4 joint-favourites for the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham next Wednesday.

Star Player to take plaudits

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CHEPSTOW
BBC1

1.00: This offers Kentish Piper a chance to shine but **OK Corral** may still prove his master. Disappointing over three miles last time, *Charlie Mann's horse* shaped promisingly on his two previous efforts, particularly at Haydock in better company. The veteran, Smartie Express, will improve for his reappearance at Huntingdon but looks anchored with top weight.

1.30: Air Shot has winning form here and goes in the ground. Although he should go well, **Stoney Valley** is taken to confirm the promise of his last run. John Jenkins's recruit had some fair novices in arrears when chasing home Balanak and *Taos two weeks ago.* His only poor effort came in a huge field on appalling ground at Cheltenham. Challenger Du Luc, a beaten favourite on his last two runs, drops down to two miles here and *should fea*ture prominently.

2.00: *Yeoman Warrior* makes plenty of appeal. He can be fancied on his achievements to date, but improvement seems assured *on his first* venture over three miles. Yeoman Warrior jumps with *more* zest than Northants or Rocky Park, who had Special Account behind when blundering away a winning chance at Wincanton last time. Shamarphil and A N C Express have place claims.

SANDOWN PARK
C4

2.55 In a race of limited betting *appeal,* Fools Errand, Jurz and Clurican can all be entertained. But the vote goes to **August Twelfth,** who should be capably ridden. The selection will be suited by this stiff track. *Macedonas landed this race* two years ago but has deteriorated.

3.30: Easthorpe got his act together when winning at Doncaster and can pass this stiffer jumping test. He faces modest opponents, the best of which is Juliet Jones. She chased home Auburn Castle on her debut over birch prior to falling at Kempton. Red *Bean has more to do than* when landing a poor race at Windsor on Monday, in which Here He Comes fell. King Credo's jumping is also far from fluent.

4.05: Amigos is a deserving favourite, not least because he carries 12lb less than his official rating in this early-closing race. However, with other front-runners in the line-up, he is passed over on this testing ground.

One who appeals is **Star Player,** who will have the *race run to suit him.* Star Player's recent Newbury victory advertised his well-being and he mastered Blast Freeze (twice a winner since) over this trip at Ascot. Trying Again, swamped by Alderbrook at *Wincanton,* has climbed the handicap and faces a tough task under top weight. Master Drum would prefer better ground *but Sohrab* could reward each-way support.

4.40: *The handicapper has* taken the measure of **Mr Boston,** although Mary Reveley could hardly have found her horse a better opportunity. He should account for Sheer Ability, who had a desperately hard race at Kempton last time. Annio Chilone would have prospects if at his best, but Spikey and Bonsai Bud make little appeal.

JULIAN MUSCAT

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

1.55 Eastshaw
2.25 Fionans Flutter
2.55 Fools Errand
3.30 Here He Comes
4.05 AMIGOS (nap)
4.40 Mr Boston
5.10 Reverend Brown

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT IN PLACES (CHASE COURSE); SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES (HURDLES) — SIS

1.55 DICK McCREERY CUP

(Handicap chase: amateurs: £3,648: 2m 4f 110yd) (4 runners)

101 41323-5 SMARTIE EXPRESS 16 (D,F,G,S) (S Norman) R Hodges 13-12-0 .... 2nd pref 98
102 20-421P EASTSHAW 96 (CD,F,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 13-11-4 .... C Ward Thomas (7) [illegible]
103 2/1P-426 OK CORRAL 44 (B,D,F,G,S) (The Toffy Partnership) C Mann 8-10-7 .... 2nd pref 96
104 64-3F0P MANOR RHYME 93 (Major H Porter) J McConnochie 8-10-7 .... A Smith-Maxwell (7) 67

Long handicap: OK Corral 10-6, Manor Rhyme 8-4.

BETTING: *5-4 Eastshaw, 6-4 Smartie Express,* 7-2 OK Corral, *12-1 Manor Rhyme.*

1994: EASTSHAW 12-11-7 C Ward Thomas (25-1) T Forster 6 ran

2.25 HIGH SPEED PRODUCTION NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(£3,518: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)

201 16 BRAES OF MAR 57 (CD,G) (Queen Elizabeth) N Henderson 5-11-4 .... M A Fitzgerald 95
202 00 AMAZING MAN 35 (S) (G Porter) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-0 .... J A McCarthy –
203 0-6 CHARLIE BEE 58 (Mrs B Bishop) R Buckler 6-11-0 .... A Tory 61
204 10-24 FIONANS FLUTTER 14 (S) (R Wright) D Elsworth 7-11-0 .... P Holley [illegible]
205 FOODBROKER STAR (Food Brokers Ltd) J Gifford 5-11-0 .... P Hide –
206 2244 LATEST THYNE 31 (S Sainsbury) T Forster 5-11-0 .... 2nd pref 81
207 0/00 MELLION PRIDE 108 (St Mellion Estates Ltd) J Old 7-11-0 .... T Grantham –
208 MONTEZUMAS REVENGE (R Macauley) M Wilkinson 7-11-0 .... J F Titley –
209 RUN FOR DANTE (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 5-11-0 .... D Bridgwater –
210 31-5 WHATTABOB 14 (S) (Mrs M Turner) N Henderson 6-11-0 .... J Osborne –
211 0 FLYNN'S GIRL 56 (Robert & Elizabeth Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-9 .... W Marston –

BETTING: 7-4 Fionans Flutter, 7-2 Whattabob, 4-1 Braes Of Mar, 8-1 Latest Thyne, 10-1 Foodbroker Star, Mellion Pride, 12-1 Charlie Bee, 20-1 others.

1994: SQUIRE SILK 5-11-8 S McNeill (9-2) A Turnell 25 ran

2.55 *BARCLAYS BANK HANDICAP HURDLE* — C4

(Amateurs: £4,206: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

301 621-343 MACEDONAS 88 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (R Wheate) G Thorner 7-11-10 .... C Ward Thomas (7) 94
302 364531 JURZ 2 (D,G,S) (P Slade) R Hodges 7-11-9 (4ex) .... J Trice-Rolph (7) [illegible]
303 111456 SUIVEZ 12F (D,F,S) (G Wiltshire) Mrs N Macauley 5-11-8 .... A Smith-Maxwell (7) 88
304 54-0422 FOOLS ERRAND 31 (BF,S) (Mrs D Russell) R Hannon 5-11-7 .... J Beardsall (7) 95
305 FP-F34U FIERCE 15 (D,F,S) (P Piper) J Jenkins 7-11-6 .... A Wood (7) 93
306 000423 CLURICAN 16 (CD,S) (P Grundy) N Tinkler 6-10-12 .... Miss V Haigh (7) 89
307 210226 JUST ROSIE 16 (F,G) (Plough Racing) A Jones 6-10-12 .... C Farr (7) 91
308 00/P14- AMBER REALM 324 (S) (Mrs C Dunn) R Buckler 7-10-12 .... D Alers-Hankey (7) 89
309 P/15/F/ ROARK 777 (D,S) (H Willis) B Stevens 13-10-11 .... G Wheeler (7) –
310 20-0122 AUGUST TWELFTH 16 (S) (D O'Brien) D O'Brien 7-10-10 .... O Ellwood (7) 91

BETTING: 5-2 Fools Errand, 7-2 Jurz, 4-1 August Twelfth, 7-1 Suivez, Clurican, 10-1 Fierce, Just Rosie, 12-1 others.

1994: SHAMSHOM AL ARAB 6-10-0 Miss V Haigh (50-1) J Jenkins 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

MACEDONAS ¾l 3rd of 14 to Elegant Friend in claiming hurdle at Southwell (2m, soft). JURZ beat Nemuro 4l in 12-runner handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft). SUIVEZ 7½l 5th of 11 to *Ambassador Royale in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter* (2m, good) on penultimate start. FOOLS ERRAND 12l 2nd of 13 to Landed Gentry in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, heavy). FIERCE best effort this season when 14½l 3rd of 7 to Amigos in handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft). JUST ROSIE 5l 2nd of 19 to Lumumba Days in handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. AMBER REALM beat Time For A Flutter 1l in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft) on penultimate start, March 1994. AUGUST TWELFTH 1½l 2nd of 14 to Major's Law in amateur riders' handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft) with CLURICAN 3½l 3rd; FIERCE unseated rider 2 out.
Selection: AUGUST TWELFTH

3.30 BURNT OAK & SPECIAL CARGO NOVICES CHASE — C4

(£4,393: 2m) (7 runners)

401 U51231 EASTHORPE 7 (D,F,G,S) (M Broughton) Miss H Knight 7-11-6 .... M A Fitzgerald 93
402 55P-0P1 RED BEAN 5 (D,G,S) (B Tonzi) J O'Donoghue 7-11-6 .... A Tory 74
403 5-UF540 FINKLE STREET 52 (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-11-2 .... A Thornton –
404 240-35U HERE HE COMES 5 (G,S) (F Wilson) A Moore 9-11-2 .... J Osborne 96
405 6PP-24F KING CREDO 52 (G,S) (G Gornall) S Woodman 10-11-2 .... J F Titley [illegible]
406 000-4 MAREMMA GALE 16 (R Scorgie) N Mitchell 7-11-2 .... B Powell 61
407 14232F JULEIT JONES 14 (S) (J Plackett) P Butler 6-10-11 .... D Bridgwater -91

BETTING: 6-4 King Credo, 9-4 Here He Comes, 4-1 Easthorpe, 8-1 Juleit Jones, 10-1 Red Bean, 14-1 Maremma Gale, 20-1 Finkle Street.

1994: CABOCHON 7-11-6 J Frost (11-4) R Frost 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

EASTHORPE beat I Have Him 5l in 8-runner novice *chase at Doncaster* (2m 110yd, good). RED BEAN beat Whippers Delight 4l in 6-runner novice chase at Windsor (2m, heavy): HERE HE COMES going *well when unseated rider 4 out.* HERE HE COMES 17½l last of 5 to Uncle Ernie in a handicap chase over course and distance (soft) on penultimate start. KING CREDO best *chase* effort when 3l 2nd of 4 to Sound Reveille in the grade II Henry VIII Novice Chase over course and distance (good). MAREMMA GALE 25½l 4th of 9 to Front Street in novice chase at Wincanton (2m, soft). JULEIT JONES 13l 2nd of 5 to Auburn Castle in novice chase at Newbury (2m 1f, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: JULEIT JONES

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.05 SUNDERLANDS IMPERIAL CUP — C4

(Handicap hurdle: £20,334: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

501 1-11122 TRYING AGAIN 16 (D,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 7-11-10 .... J Osborne [illegible]
502 5212/53 SOHRAB 23 (D,S) (Mrs J Richards) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-9 .... C Maude 89
503 5-30050 NAHAR 7 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow 10-10-6 .... D Bridgwater 90
504 414653 MISTER DRUM 21 (D,G,S) (M Bachelor) M Wilkinson 6-10-6 .... J F Titley 91
505 040-121 STAR PLAYER 29 (D,G,S) (P Smith) R Baker 9-10-3 (4ex) .... M A Fitzgerald 97
506 /2/0111 AMIGOS 30 (D,G,S) (P O'Sullivan) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-2 .... M Dwyer 98
507 411-44 COLLIER BAY 92 (D,S) (W Sturt) J Old 5-10-2 .... T Grantham 90
508 0/4F-266 HOLY WANDERER 56 (D,F) (Mrs J Leek) D Arbuthnot 6-10-0 .... A Procter (3) 94
509 0-33325 STATAJACK 16 (CD,G) (Mrs M Slade) D Elsworth 7-10-0 .... P Holley 85
510 11114P KINGSFOLD PET 35 (D,G,S) (G Nye) M Haynes 6-10-0 .... D Skyrme 88

Long handicap: Holy Wanderer 9-11, Statajack 9-10, Kingsfold Pet 9-9.

BETTING: 6-4 Amigos, 5-1 Trying Again, Star Player, 6-1 Collier Bay, 14-1 Sohrab, Mister Drum, 20-1 Nahar, Kingsfold Pet, 25-1 Statajack, 33-1 Holy Wanderer

1994: PRECIOUS BOY 8-11-7 L Wyer (33-1) M Meagher 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

TRYING AGAIN 8l 2nd of 7 to Alderbrook in grade II KJ Pike Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft) with STATAJACK (24lb better off) 34l 5th. NAHAR *23l 7th of 12 to Brambleberry in handicap hurdle at* Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). MISTER DRUM best effort this season, beat Zealous Kitten 3l in 14-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft), with COLLIER BAY (2lb better off) short-head and head 4th. STAR PLAYER beat Sendai 10l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, heavy). AMIGOS completed treble, beat Salwan 12l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft). STATAJACK head 2nd of 4 to Zealous Kitten in handicap hurdle over course and distance (heavy) on penultimate start, with SOHRAB (4lb better off) 4l 3rd. KINGSFOLD PET best effort this season, beat Blast Freeze 3l in 6-*runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd,* heavy) with MISTER DRUM (13lb better off) 11¼l 4th and HOLY WANDERER (17lb better off) tailed off 6th.
Selection: TRYING AGAIN (nap)

4.40 HMS SANDOWN HANDICAP CHASE — C4

(£6,678: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

601 3F-2233 MR BOSTON 63 (D,F,G,S) (M Oldham) Mrs M Reveley 10-11-10 .... P Niven 97
602 1111-54 SHEER ABILITY 14 (D,G,S) (M Devlin) C Mann 9-11-7 .... M A Fitzgerald 97
603 3P253P SPIKEY 32 (D,G) (S Powell) J Jenkins 9-10-1 .... J Osborne 95
604 2P-42P5 BONSAI BUD 58 (D,F,G,S) (P De Wilde) D Murray Smith 12-10-1 .... D Gallagher [illegible]
605 251404 ANNIO CHILONE 22 (CD,G,S) (Miss J Semple) J Gifford 9-10-0 .... P Hide 91

Long handicap: Annio Chilone 9-13

BETTING: 5-4 Mr Boston, 7-4 Sheer Ability, 7-1 Bonsai Bud, 8-1 Spikey, Annio Chilone.

1994: BUCK WILLOW 10-10-1 D J Murphy (4-1 jt-fav) J Gifford 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

MR BOSTON 1¾l 3rd of 10 to Deep Bramble in *handicap chase here (3m 5f 110yd, good to soft).* SHEER ABILITY 65l 4th of 9 to Val D'Alene in grade III Racing Post Handicap Chase at Kempton (3m, heavy). Completed six-timer last season when beating Tempet 4l in 5-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f, good). SPIKEY 8¼l 3rd of 5 to Whispering Steel in handicap chase at Ascot (3m *110yd, good) on penultimate start.* ANNIO CHILONE best recent effort when 18¼l 4th of 15 to *Mr Flanagan in handicap chase at Wincanton* (3m 1f 110yd, good) with BONSAI BUD (6lb better off) 20l 5th.
Selection: MR BOSTON

5.10 FLYERS OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,940: 2m 110yd) (22 runners)

1 641 CREDO BOY 16 (S) (K Bishop) K Bishop 6-12-1 .... M Moran (7) –
2 2 ACT OF FAITH 37 (Mrs R Baker) N Gaselee 5-11-8 .... M A Fitzgerald –
3 BOXGROVE MAN (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) J Old 5-11-8 .... T Grantham –
4 2 CAMP BANK 22 (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-8 .... D Bridgwater –
5 0 EKEUS 91 (Miss S Douglas-Pennant) J King 5-11-8 .... B Powell –
6 GREENSIDE CHAT (The Fairway Partnership) S Dow 5-11-8 .... Mr T Cuff –
7 'IGGINS (Pall-mall Partners) J Gifford 5-11-8 .... P Hide –
8 KEY PLAYER (W Packham) R Rowe 5-11-8 .... D O'Sullivan –
9 5 LINE OF CONQUEST 16 (Miss C James) R Hodges 5-11-8 .... A Tory –
10 MAYB-MAYB (M & N Plant Ltd) R Simpson 5-11-8 .... W Marston –
11 MUSIC THERAPY (R Van Gelder) T Forster 5-11-8 .... A P McCoy –
12 3 REVEREND BROWN 31 (BF) (J Palmer-Brown) O Sherwood 5-11-8 .... J Osborne –
13 SLINGSBY (Mrs L McCalla) Miss H Knight 5-11-8 .... P Niven –
14 WILDE MUSIC (A Brodin) C Brooks 5-11-8 .... D Gallagher –
15 MERILENA (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 5-11-3 .... Gee Armytage –
16 MISS BRECKNELL (R Johnson) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-3 .... L Reynolds –
17 AROUND THE GALE (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 4-11-0 .... M Dwyer –
18 MAGIC WIZARD (C Dyer Syndicate) P Hayward 4-11-0 .... S Righton (7) –
19 PRAXITILES (Mrs D Padfield) T Forster 4-11-0 .... M Perrett –
20 ROVESTAR (G Burr) J King 4-11-0 .... A Procter (3) –
21 P RUSSELLS RUNNER 16 (D Barker (Surrey)) B Millman 4-11-0 .... D Salter (5) –
22 WYNBERG (Mrs D Prodden) T Forster 4-11-0 .... R Farrant –

BETTING: 7-2 Camp Bank, 4-1 Credo Boy, 6-1 Reverend Brown, 7-1 Act Of Faith, 8-1 'Iggins, 10-1 others.

1994: FALMOUTH BAY 5-11-8 Mr J Durkan (5-1) S Sherwood 22 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Jimmy Fitzgerald	5	14	35.7	Mr C Ward Thomas	8	18	44.4
Mrs M Reveley	5	15	33.3	C Maude	4	19	21.1
D Murray-Smith	4	16	25.0	M Dwyer	3	15	20.0
T Forster	8	35	22.9	G McCourt	6	32	18.8
J Old	5	25	20.0	M Perrett	9	49	18.4
Miss H Knight	4	20	20.0	J Osborne	18	115	15.7

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Calls charged at 39p/min cheap rate, 49p/min at all other times. [illegible]

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Huntingdon (first race, 2.10), *Plumpton (2.20), Taunton (2.00).*
TUESDAY: Cheltenham (C4, 2.15), Newton Abbot (1.55), Sedgefield (2.05).
WEDNESDAY: Cheltenham (C4, 2.15), Newton Abbot (2.30), Nottingham (2.10).
THURSDAY: Cheltenham (C4, 2.15), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.10), Hexham (2.00).
FRIDAY: Cheltenham (C4, 2.15), Fakenham (2.40), Lingfield Park (2.00).
SATURDAY: Hereford (2.20), Lingfield Park (2.25), Newcastle (2.15), Uttoxeter (C4, 2.00), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).
Flat meetings in bold

Mudahim misses Festival

MUDAHIM, a leading fancy for the Stayers' Hurdle at *Cheltenham* next Wednesday, will *miss the race, and the* remainder of the season, because of a minor leg problem. He was being prepared *to work on* Peter Chapple-Hyam's gallops when Chris Broad, his trainer, felt some heat in the gelding's off-fore leg.

Broad said he did not know when the injury occurred, but wanted to stress that Mudahim had not broken down. "It could have happened at any time," he said.

Richard Baerlein, 84, dies

RICHARD BAERLEIN, racing correspondent for *The Guardian* and *Observer* newspapers for over a quarter of a century, has died, aged 84. He had been in poor health after a motor accident two years ago.

Baerlein began his career with the *Sporting Chronicle* in 1937 before reporting for the *Evening Standard* for over a decade. He first wrote for *The Observer* in 1963 and had been with *The Guardian* since 1968. Baerlein, also an owner-breeder, won the Lord Derby award for Journalist of the Year in 1973.

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هكذا من الأصل

Voice of racing still calling the tune

Peter O'Sullevan relies on Amigos to keep an active role at the Festival.

Richard Evans reports

Peter O'Sullevan has lost his lofty perch in the commentary box after covering the Cheltenham Festival for 45 years with the BBC

Peter O'Sullevan originally asked for a bet of £15,000 to £1,200 each-way on his horse but finally settled for £10,000 to £800 each-way after seeing the startled look of the young bookmaker's representative. "It's a viable bet," the doyen of television racing commentators reflected with a typical sense of reserve "... at the moment."

If Amigos, an 11-8 shot with Ladbrokes, lives up to his name in the Sunderlands Imperial Cup at Sandown this afternoon, the hurdler, owned jointly by O'Sullevan with the Marquesa de Moratalla and trained at Malton by Jimmy Fitzgerald, will have proved the most timely friend, and not simply because another shrewd ante-post plunge will have been landed.

After covering the Cheltenham Festival for 45 years with the BBC, the unmistakeable 77-year-old voice of racing will not be accompanying the scenes of derring-do which will be beamed into millions of homes from Prestbury Park next week. As Channel 4 assumes responsibility for televised coverage, O'Sullevan will be Joe Punter, just another face in the crowd, unless Amigos wins today and then goes for the County Hurdle at Cheltenham on Thursday.

With three wins under his belt this season, the success of Amigos and the dream of what may be in store have rekindled the fondest memories for O'Sullevan at a time when he would have every right to feel a shade subdued. "Marvellous, it really is like getting back into the old days with Be Friendly and Attivo," he said, referring to his 1968 Prix de l'Abbaye and 1974 Triumph Hurdle winners.

Victory for Amigos today would open up the possibility of winning the £50,000 bonus on offer to any horse completing an Imperial Cup - County Hurdle double.

"That would be absolutely fantastic. It would be a marvellous bonus, not just the £50,000, to return to Cheltenham with a winner. I scarcely dare look ahead and plan but if Amigos wins the Imperial Cup he will get a 7lb penalty, but he would be ridden at Cheltenham by Fitzy's 7lb claimer, Eddie Callaghan, so he would still have 10st 13lb. That is a daunting weight in a race like the County Hurdle but if he showed himself to be improving, to go in the ground and handle the opposition on Saturday, he would have to have a squeak at Cheltenham."

The prospect of a Cheltenham winner is the hope of every National Hunt owner, and yet O'Sullevan would willingly cash in his dream ticket, along with the ante-post vouchers, for the chance to be in his rightful place, high above the betting ring, when the horses file down to the start on Tuesday for the opening race of the Festival.

"It is such a privilege to call the horses at that meeting which, to me, is unique. There is no three days racing in the world to compare with it, either on the Flat or over the jumps, and there is no atmosphere to compare with it. I had the good fortune to go to the Melbourne Cup but there is nothing to compare wth Cheltenham. It is the partisanship, partly, of course, in the Anglo-Irish rivalry, but it is the sheer joy of seeing equine perfection in action. The best horses produced at their peak, the best riders and an unrivalled natural basin in the Cotswolds.

> 'Classical Shakespeare really doesn't need the Tiller girls introducing it'

"After Cheltenham last year, I said to Barney Curley the Festival seemed to get better every year and he said: 'It makes it a shame one has to die.' How right he is. As a commentator you hope, naturally, to keep pace with the action but also to translate the emotion ... the Dawn Runs, the Desert Orchids and I remember so vividly the 1964 Arkle-Mill House clash.

"Mill House had won the Gold Cup the previous year and he was a good horse. And here was this other horse, one had to say he was no oil painting, he reminded me more of a stag in action than a horse, and I thought there were going to be a lot of disappointed Irishmen. I saw them go down and Mill House looked as though he would eat him.

"And Arkle didn't jump absolutely impeccable, you know. I remember the first coming down the hill and Mill House gained a bit of ground and I thought now he is going to show it and open up. But Pat [Taaffe] was always there and all of a sudden he was upsides at the second last and at the last he has just got to jump it. He quickened, it was amazing, and I remember saying in commentary, luckily, 'this is the greatest'. And he was. He won the next one by 20 lengths and the next by 30 lengths. They had to rewrite the rules of handicapping because of Arkle. He was a freak, no question.

"Every Cheltenham is emotional. If there is not an established star or a foreseeable star, then a combination like Tom Foley and Danoli will suddenly appear. You have these marvellous situations, fairy stories that have been written in that Cotswold basin year after year. Writing about the Festival is a desperate business: by the third race you have a marvellous story, but you have slung it out by the fifth."

O'Sullevan has made plain his disappointment at the decision of Cheltenham racecourse to discard the potent combination of loyalty and continuity which had been built up with the BBC during its coverage of the Festival, and opt instead for the commercial gains offered by Channel 4.

"I quite understand others would say that the coverage had become rather unexciting but it doesn't need anything but very good camera work and nobody could deny the BBC camera work is very good. It needs to be played straight down the line; it doesn't need any projection, any fanfare, any hype. It is its own hype. Classical Shakespeare really doesn't need the Tiller girls introducing it."

As O'Sullevan anticipates the prospect of being able to enjoy lunch for the first time at the Festival and have a proper look at the runners in the parade ring before a race, he is already seeking out potential winners. Harcon is pencilled in for the Sun Alliance Chase, while he has no regrets about each-way support for Algan in the Gold Cup.

However, as he completes commentating at Chepstow this afternoon before making the dash up the M4 to Sandown, his own Cheltenham dream will begin. Come next Thursday, he will not be the only person wishing he was calling Amigos home.

[illegible]

Experience proves crucial for Brown

BRENDA BROWN, of Colchester, won the English women's national indoor singles bowls championship at Northampton yesterday by beating Maureen Monkton, of Ilminster, Somerset, 21-13 (Gordon Allan writes). Brown is an international and a past winner of the national pairs and triples. Monkton, by contrast, has been bowling for only five years. By reaching the final, both players qualified for the women's world indoor singles at Cumbernauld in the first week of April.

Monkton made an encouraging start by taking a 10-3 advantage, but Brown took the lead at 12-11 after scoring a four and, when she ditched the jack, a three. Another four two ends later made it 16-13 and Brown dominated the closing stages, claiming the title-winning shot on a measure. It was a triumph of experience over promise.

Lewis seeks fourth title

ATHLETICS: David Lewis will endeavour today to become the first athlete for 91 years to win a fourth English national men's cross country title (David Powell writes). The last runner to accomplish the feat was Alfred Shrubb in 1904. Lewis, 33, of Rossendale AC, the Lancashire club, has not recovered fully from an Achilles tendon injury but said yesterday that he had decided to run at Luton, "otherwise I would be just sitting at home wondering whether I could have won". If he is to add to his victories in 1985, 1989 and 1994, Lewis will need to beat Spencer Duval, the new Britain champion, who won the title last Sunday.

Objection overruled

SKIING: Werner Perathoner, of Italy, won his first Alpine World Cup race in Kvitfjell, Norway, yesterday, leading his country's onslaught in the super-giant slalom in which Italians filled five of the first ten places. The jury dismissed an Austrian protest that several members of the Italian team had used a special back support which produced an aerodynamic effect and made them go faster. But the jury found that only second-placed Kristian Ghedina, who suffers from a back injury, had used the device.

Record entry set to row

ROWING: A record 229 crews will compete in the 55th Women's Eights Head, from Mortlake to Putney, today. Thames RC, the winners last year, lead off, followed by the 1993 winners, Tideway Scullers, and other leading crews from Kingston, Staines, Thames Tradesmen and Bedford. Deutscher Ruderverband, the leading German squad crew, will take part, as will competitors from Oxford and Cambridge Universities, France, Denmark and Holland.

Sainz accelerates away

MOTOR RALLYING: Carlos Sainz, of Spain, won the Portuguese Rally in Figueira da Foz yesterday at the wheel of a Subaru Impreza. Juha Kankkunen, of Finland, the overnight leader, finished second in a Toyota Celica, 12 seconds behind, with Sainz's Scottish team-mate, Colin McRae, 3min 14sec adrift in third place. Sainz, who won the opening event of the season at Monte Carlo, leads the world championship after three races.

Jordan ready to return

BASKETBALL: Michael Jordan, right, is reportedly returning to the sport he dominated after spending a season as a minor-league baseball player. Jordan, 32, stunned the National Basketball Association 17 months ago when he announced he was retiring from the Chicago Bulls, whom he had led to three successive championships. He intends to return to the Bulls, club sources said.

Voorn starts in style

EQUESTRIANISM: Albert Voorn, of Holland, won the VEW prize on the opening afternoon of the World Cup show in Dortmund yesterday. Riding Jewel's Amethyst, the ten-year-old gelding, Voorn had a time of 28.18sec. Of the British contingent, only Nick Skelton qualified for the 15-horse jump-off, from which he decided to withdraw Everest Dollar Girl, given the ensuing demands of the Volvo World Cup qualifier and the grand prix in consecutive days.

Dare has landmark in sight

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

THE spotlight this season has fallen mostly on Polly Curling, who, with ten winners already, is setting a strong pace in pursuit of her third point-to-point title. However, in career terms she has still some way to go to catch Alison Dare, who can make this a weekend to remember by riding the one winner she needs to reach 200 point-to-point victories.

She also has 18 hunter chases to her credit, but the vital point-to-point success could well come from her five intended rides over the next two days. She can call on two at today's Flint and Denbigh, where Stephens Pet in the ladies' looks to be the pick, and three tomorrow at the South Herefordshire, where her mounts include Givitago, running for the first time for Dick Baimbridge, in the ladies, and Split Second in the maiden.

The first Land Rover qualifier in the North West will be run at the Flint and Denbigh meeting and in the absence of Solar Green, the winner of a hunter chase at Leicester earlier this week, the issue looks to rest between Alistair Crow's choice of three and Fence Judge.

Crow prefers Equity Player, a course winner last year, but the stable has two other entries, Garylucas, highly rated in Ireland last season when winning three opens for trainer Robert Tyner, and another Irish import, Moss Castle. As a 12-year-old, Fence Judge improved with every outing last season, winning five races in succession under Richard Burton.

The safest bet of the afternoon at Charing for the South East Hunts Club should be Royal Haven. He made his debut under Peter Bull at this course a fortnight ago and ran Yeoman Farmer to a short head in the intermediate race. He drops in class today for the maiden.

TODAY'S FIXTURES: Brecon, Llanfrynach, 3 miles south east of Brecon (first race 12.00). Cottesmore, Garthorpe, 5m E of Melton Mowbray (12.30). Cumberland Farmers, Dalston, 5m S of Carlisle (12.30). Derwent, Charm Park, 5m SW of Scarborough (12.00); Flint and Denbigh, Eaton Hall, 4m S of Chester (12.00); Silverton, Haldon, 6m SW of Exeter (1.00); South East Hunts Club, Charing, 6m NW of Ashford (1.00); Waveney, Higham, 7m NE of Colchester (1.00)

TOMORROW: Bolventor, Lemalla, 6m SW of Launceston (12.30); Dunston, Ampton, 4m N of Bury St Edmunds (12.30); South Herefordshire, Garnons, 7m W of Hereford (1.00); Tynedale, Corbridge, 3m N of town (12.30)

AYR

THUNDERER
1.45 Dorlin Castle. 2.15 Political Tower. 2.50 Major Bell. 3.25 Nawrik. 4.00 Fearless Wonder. 4.30 High Alltitude. 5.00 Santa Concerto.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
1.45 DORLIN CASTLE.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

1.45 ROSEMOUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,295: 2m 6f) (12 runners)

1	P121	DORLIN CASTLE 11 (S) L Lungo 7-12-0	T Reed
2	-001	ASK ME LATER 28 (C,S) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-11	R Murphy (7)
3	32-0	GROG 42 D Swindlehurst 6-11-6	Mr D Swindlehurst
4	1522	D'ARBLAY STREET 28 (B,BF,S) W Kemp 6-11-3	S McDougall
5	0334	VALLEY GARDEN 37 (G,S) J J O'Neill 5-11-3	A Roche (3)
6	50-0	BOB NELSON 21 P Beaumont 8-10-11	Mrs A Farrell
7	0050	SLOTAMATIQUE 21 G Richards 6-10-9	A Dobbin
8	063F	STORMY CORAL 37 C Parker 5-10-8	B Storey
9	0-50	PETER 49 D Whillans 7-10-4	B Harding (5)
10	-04P	MOSSMAN 54 J Barclay 7-10-0	G Lee (5)
11	UPP0	BOLANEY GIRL 11 J J O'Neill 6-10-0	R McGrath (7)
12	0456	MISS JEDD 12 (B) W Young 8-10-0	F Perratt (5)

6-4 Dorlin Castle, 7-2 D'Arblay Street, 9-2 Valley Garden, 7-1 Ask Me Later, 10-1 Slotamatique, 12-1 Bob Nelson, 14-1 others.

2.15 ARTHUR CHALLENGE CUP
(Handicap chase: £3,355: 2m) (5)

1	552U	SKY RANGE 185 (D,F,G,S) L Lungo 10-12-0	T Reed
2	U300	ONE FOR THE POT 10 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs A Naughton 10-12-0	J Supple (5)
3	UU40	POLITICAL TOWER 21 (CD,G,S) M Barnes 8-11-10	A Dobbin
4	F4PP	SIDE OF HILL 72 (D,F,S) B Mactaggart 10-11-4	L Wyer
5	2435	KAMBALDA RAMBLER 14 (B,D,S) C Parker 11-10-11	B Storey

6-4 Sky Range, 2-1 One For The Pot, 5-1 Political Tower, 6-1 Kambalda Rambler, 8-1 Side Of Hill

2.50 HARCROS HELPING YOU BUILD HANDICAP HURDLE
(Qualifier: £2,762: 2m 4f) (9)

1	-016	MAJOR BELL 91 (CD,F,G,S) A Whillans 7-12-0	M Moloney
2	-051	HELIOPSIS 35 (C,D,G,S) M Hammond 7-10-10	A Dobbin
3	4142	PLUMBOB 14 (D,G) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-8	R Murphy (7)
4	F-00	VAYRUA 12 (D,G,S) J Hellens 6-10-8	A Lamach (3)
5	23P5	GREAT MAX 54 (D,S) C Parker 6-10-8	B Storey
6	F43P	IT'S THE PITS 54 (D,G,S) L Lungo 8-10-4	F Perratt (5)
7	3016	ROSIN THE BOW 13 (D,G,S) D McBratney (Ire) 6-10-3	DOUBTFUL
8	303F	MASTER OF TROY 14 (C,G,S) C Parker 7-10-3	Mr D Parker (5)
9	2-FP	SCARF 11 (C,S) J J O'Neill 7-10-0	A Roche (3)

2-1 Heliopsis, 9-2 Plumbob, 6-1 Great Max, Major Bell, 7-1 It's The Pits, 10-1 Master Of Troy, 12-1 Scarf, 16-1 Vayrua.

3.25 ELK HANDICAP CHASE (£2,762: 3m 1f) (6)

1	4552	CAROUSEL ROCKET 28 (C,F,G,S) M Hammond 12-11-10	A Dobbin
2	1366	DUCHESS OF TUBBER 37 (CD,S) R Fisher 7-11-10	B Harding (5)
3	3F51	NAWRIK 28 (CD,S) L Lungo 6-11-5	F Perratt (5)
4	5640	TRUELY ROYAL 11 (D,G,S) J Charlton 11-10-12	Mr D Parker (5)
5	2PU6	NUN ON THE RUN 36 J Oliver 9-10-11	B Storey
6	U5P4	GALA WATER 32 (D,S) T Dun 9-10-9	T Reed

4-5 Nawrik, 7-2 Carousel Rocket, 6-1 Duchess Of Tubber, 8-1 Truely Royal, 12-1 Nun On The Run, 16-1 Gala Water.

4.00 AYRSHIRE YEOMANRY CUP JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,556: 2m) (6)

1	1	FEARLESS WONDER 12 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 11-5	G Lee (5)
2	223	BANG IN TROUBLE 36 J J O'Neill 10-12	L Wyer
3	P	BRITE WIZARD 119 C Parker 10-12	B Storey
4	6	CITY KING 15 G Richards 10-12	A Dobbin
5		OVALWORLD 141F D Whillans 10-12	B Harding (5)
6	0	RING OF THE TILL 36 Mrs D Thomson 10-12	L O'Hara

8-11 Fearless Wonder, 7-4 Bang In Trouble, 7-1 City King, 10-1 others.

4.30 PRESTWICK NOVICES CHASE
(£2,736: 2m) (5)

1	24F1	HIGH ALLTITUDE 21 (D,G,S) G Moore 7-11-10	A Dobbin
2	P0P6	LOMOND SPRINGS 42 J Barclay 6-11-4	F Perratt (5)
3	3P56	MUSKET SHOT 28 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-4	Mr J Bradburne
4	-106	OAKLEY 39 (F) Denys Smith 6-11-4	L Wyer
5	P-	SPECTRE BROWN 21P F Jestin 5-10-10	N Leach

1-5 High Alltitude, 6-1 Oakley, 8-1 Musket Shot, 25-1 Lomond Springs, 33-1 Spectre Brown

5.00 TRIPLEPRINT OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,551: 2m) (11)

1	21	SANTA CONCERTO 32 (S) L Lungo 6-12-1	F Perratt (5)
2	32-	BALLYALLIA CASTLE 350 R Fisher 6-11-8	T Reed
3	0	BREEZY SEA 32 P Monteith 5-11-8	S de Burgh (7)
4	0-	FUNNY WORRY 535 P Monteith 6-11-8	B Harding (5)
5	0	GOOD PROFIT 42 W Young 6-11-8	R Murphy (7)
6	406	PEBBLE BEACH 49 G Moore 5-11-8	J Callaghan
7	0	DARK HORIZON 14 G Richards 6-11-3	A Dobbin
8	46	GIVE BEST 7 J J O'Neill 4-11-0	A Roche (3)
9		KARIBU M Meagher 4-11-0	L Wyer
10	0	MONSOON PRINCE 21 J J O'Neill 4-11-0	R McGrath (7)
11		PAPPA CHARLIE C Parker 4-11-0	B Storey

5-4 Santa Concerto, 3-1 Ballyallia Castle, 4-1 Karibu, 10-1 Breezy Sea, 12-1 Pappa Charlie, Give Best, 16-1 Pebble Beach, 33-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Beaumont, 3 winners from 10 runners, 30.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 34 from 114, 29.8%; J J O'Neill, 18 from 79, 22.8%; G Richards, 53 from 233, 22.7%; G Moore, 15 from 77, 19.5%.

JOCKEYS: A Roche, 5 winners from 18 rides, 27.8%; B Harding, 4 from 21, 19.0%; A Dobbin, 16 from 90, 17.8%; L Wyer, 9 from 55, 16.4%; Mr J Bradburne, 7 from 50, 14.0%.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER
1.40 Easby Joker. 2.10 Erlemo. 2.45 Rectory Garden. 3.15 Russinsky. 3.45 Galaxy Rain. 4.20 Dear Do. 4.50 Test Match.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 Turner Prize. 3.45 KATBALLOU (nap).

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

1.40 OSSINGTON AMATEUR RIDERS MAIDEN CHASE (£3,590: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners)

1	-PP0	AH JIM LAD 9 (G) W Mann 11-12-0	A McPherson (7)
2	4P-P	BACK IN BUSINESS 9 (G) T Forster 12-12-0	B Pollock (7)
3	F656	CELTIC TOKEN 14 P Blockley 6-12-0	E James (7)
4	630F	EASBY JOKER 37 (BF,S) S Kettlewell 7-12-0	C Bonner (5)
5	F3P4	JOHN ROGER 54 H Manners 9-12-0	A Charles-Jones (7)
6	5P5P	KETFORD BRIDGE 14 R Dickin 8-12-0	Miss S Duckett (7)
7	-F3P	PENNINE PASS 14 D Williams 6-12-0	M Rimell (5)
8	P	COOLVAWN LADY 21 (F) Mrs N Macauley 6-11-9	A Sansome (7)

6-4 Back In Business, 3-1 Easby Joker, 9-2 John Roger, 7-1 Celtic Token, 8-1 Pennine Pass, 10-1 Ah Jim Lad, 25-1 others.

2.10 MUSKHAM NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,080: 2m 4f 110yd) (8)

1	-223	MILLMOUNT 35 (B) T McGovern 5-12-0	F Leahy (5)
2	1104	TURNER PRIZE 21 (CD,G,S) M Ryan 5-11-13	J Ryan
3	3241	WINN'S PRIDE 7F (S) R Hollinshead 4-11-11	S Wynne (3)
4	52P1	ERLEMO 33 (V,S) W Clay 6-11-1	Diane Clay
5	0-40	ROLLING THE BONES 58 P Felgate 6-10-9	B Dalton
6	5260	TARGET LINE 37 (D,S) Mrs S Smith 5-10-6	R Wilkinson (7)
7	5205	ASK FOR BARNEY 11 B Rothwell 6-10-5	R Supple
8	0-54	STORMING RUN 11 P Dalton 7-10-0	T Eley (3)

9-4 Winn's Pride, 11-4 Millmount, 9-2 Erlemo, 5-1 Turner Prize, 7-1 others.

2.45 DUCTILE CASTINGS NOVICES CHASE
(£3,800: 3m 110yd) (3)

1	1221	RECTORY GARDEN 16 (S) T Forster 6-11-9	J R Kavanagh
2	PP00	DRUSO 14 (G) R Marvin 11-11-4	W Worthington
3	-FP3	LE GINNO 16 (B,G,S) C Brooks 8-11-4	G Bradley

4-7 Rectory Garden, 5-4 Le Ginno, 40-1 Druso.

3.15 NOTTINGHAM PRINT FINISHERS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,191: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1	P-U5	HOTPLATE 100 (G,S) D McCain 12-11-10	D McCain (5)
2	6-50	SIRRAH JAY 9 (D,F,G,S) K Burke 15-10-13	R Supple
3	514F	RUSSINSKY 9 (CD,G,S) G Bravery 8-10-7	M Hourigan
4	U252	HOWGILL 14 (C,F,G) R Hollinshead 9-10-4	S Wynne (3)

6-4 Howgill, 5-2 Russinsky, 3-1 Hotplate, 9-2 Sirrah Jay.

3.45 THURGARTON NOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£2,158: 2m) (14)

1	2	KATBALLOU 11 K Wingrove 6-11-2	J Ryan
2	F-6	LORD GLENVARA 81F T McGovern 7-11-2	F Leahy (5)
3		MANSIO 2027F C Jones 11-11-2	G Upton
4	00	MARKETING MAN 58F Pat Mitchell 5-11-2	J McLaughlin
5	U	SUNDAY'S MAN 28P B Rothwell 5-11-2	R Supple
6	PP-P	TODAY'S ASSET 22 Mrs L Jewell 7-11-2	I Lawrence
7	0	GRIMSTON PARK 14 J Wharton 7-10-11	B Dalton
8	P-PP	JUST FOR A LARK 26 D Burchell 5-10-11	D J Burchell
9		MIDLIN 43F J L Harris 5-10-11	T Wall
10	P0	BRUZ 21 Miss M Rowland 4-10-8	Gary Lyons
11	0	CLUBS ARE TRUMPS 31 R Dickin 4-10-8	R Bellamy
12		FLYING IMP 40F R Hollinshead 4-10-8	S Wynne (3)
13	00P3	GALAXY RAIN 32 B McMahon 4-10-8	G Robertson (7)
14	00	SOTTISES 21 P Dalton 4-10-3	T Eley (3)

7-4 Katballou, 4-1 Lord Glenvara, 5-1 Galaxy Rain, 6-1 Flying Imp, 8-1 Clubs Are Trumps, 14-1 Midlin, 25-1 others.

4.20 ROLLESTON MILL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,493: 2m) (5)

1	F152	JAMES THE FIRST 14 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-13	Guy Lewis (5)
2	2212	DEAR DO 4 (D,S) N Henderson 8-11-9	J R Kavanagh
3	32P3	CHEEKA 7 C Smith 6-10-13	M Ranger
4	3204	FULL SHILLING 9 K Burke 6-10-3	R Supple
5	5024	HIGHLAND POACHER 14 (S) D McCain 8-10-0	D McCain (5)

9-4 Dear Do, 5-2 James The First, 11-4 Cheeka, 8-1 Full Shilling, 7-1 Highland Poacher.

4.50 EGMANTON HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,490: 2m) (6)

1	11-P	TIP IT IN 98 (CD,G,S) A Smith 5-11-10	S Turner
2	4-6P	MRS JAWLEYFORD 22F (CD,G,S) C Smith 7-11-6	M Ranger
3	4310	TEST MATCH 51 (D,G,S) W Clay 8-11-5	Diane Clay
4	1-60	AUVILLAR 141 (V,D,F,G,S) D Burchell 7-11-5	D J Burchell
5	641F	RAIN-N-SUN 37 (CD,BF,G,S) J L Harris 9-11-3	Mr I McLelland
6	0-30	EASTERN MAGIC 123 (CD,G) G Barnett 7-10-7	S Wynne (3)

11-4 Test Match, 3-1 Rain-N-Sun, 7-2 Tip It In, 9-2 Auvillar, 7-1 Mrs Jawleyford, 8-1 Eastern Magic.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Forster, 5 winners from 10 runners, 50.0%; R Hollinshead, 27 from 123, 22.0%; W Clay, 25 from 132, 18.9%; J L Harris, 27 from 166, 16.3%; P Blockley, 5 from 31, 16.1%; Mrs L Jewell, 3 from 19, 15.8%; D Burchell, 8 from 59, 13.6%; Mrs S Smith, 6 from 52, 11.5.

JOCKEYS: Diane Clay, 17 winners from 63 rides, 27.0%; S Wynne, 24 from 123, 19.5%; R Supple, 16 from 85, 18.8%; B Dalton, 5 from 37, 13.5%; M Hourigan, 3 from 24, 12.5%; T Wall, 6 from 51, 11.8%; D J Burchell, 5 from 43, 11.6%; T Eley, 8 from 71, 11.3%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: There are no horses blinkered for the first time today.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Sandown Park

Going: soft

2.00 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Jack Button (D Bridgwater, 4-11 fav); 2, Huge Mistake (4-1). Only 2 finished. 6 ran. 10l. Bob Jones. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.10.

2.35 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Primitive Singer (W Marston, 7-1); 2, Ascot Lad (20-1); 3, Rivage Bleu (50-1). Fiveleigh Builds 3-1 fav. 8 ran. NR: Cambo, Express Travel. Nk, 13l. J Pickering. Tote: £7.60; £1.80, £2.00, £12.60. DF: £35.90. Trio: £383.80. CSF: £96.77. Tricast: £4,925.90.

3.05 (3m 110yd) 1, Country Member (Major O Ellwood, 15-8 fav; Thunderer's nap and Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Buckboard Bounce (5-1); 3, Cool Ground (13-2). 15 ran. NR: Leagaune. 1¾l, 15l. A Turnell. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £2.90, £1.90. DF: £9.20. Trio: £11.00. CSF: £10.45.

3.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Welsh Lustre (W Marston, 7-1); 2, Chief Celt (40-1); 3, Metal Oiseau (20-1). Jadidh 3-1 fav (pu). 8 ran. NR: Northern Village. 2l, 5l. D Nicholson. Tote: £6.80; £1.90, £6.40, £4.30. DF: £91.60. Trio: £309.00. CSF: £135.56. Tricast: £3,747.02. Northern Village (14-1) withdrawn, not under orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction of 5p in £1.

4.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Wild Illusion (Mr J Trice-Rolph, 8-15 fav); 2, Fifth Amendment (6-1); 3, Linebacker (40-1). 9 ran. 15l, 6l. Miss J Pidgeon. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.80, £2.60. DF: £3.10. Trio: £24.20. CSF: £4.29.

4.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Jymjam Johnny (Peter Hobbs, 9-2); 2, Sophie May (5-1); 3, Jason's Boy (5-2 fav). 7 ran. 15l, 11l. J Akehurst. Tote: £5.40; £2.60, £2.10. DF: £10.20. CSF: £23.24.

Jackpot: £6,906.60.

Placepot: £225.40. Quadpot: £286.20.

Ayr

Going: heavy

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Corston Racer (R Murphy, 13-8 fav); 2, Val De Rama (8-1); 3, Derwent Lad (10-1). 9 ran. 3l, 25l. Mrs S Bradburne. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.30, £2.90. DF: £9.70. CSF: £14.54.

2.20 (3m 1f ch) 1, Kilcolgan (B Storey, 5-2); 2, Sheelin Lad (7-2); 3, Spurious (16-1). Johnny Kelly 6-4 fav (pu). 6 ran. 20l, dist. Mrs J Goodfellow. Tote: £3.10; £1.10, £1.80. DF: £5.50. CSF: £10.47.

2.55 (2m 4f ch) 1, Ceilidh Boy (B Storey, 11-8); 2, Ninia (10-11 fav). 2 ran. NR: Cornel. 3l. Mrs J Goodfellow. Tote: £1.80. Cornel (10-1), withdrawn not under orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 5p in £1.

3.30 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Uron V (Mr M H Naughton, 4-11 fav); 2, Coqui Lane (13-2); 3, Farmer's Cross (5-1). 5 ran. 30l, 15l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.50; £1.00, £3.70. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.35.

4.00 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Monaughty Man (Mr K Green, 5-1); 2, Clonony Castle (8-1); 3, Orange Ragusa (7-4). Bervie House 11-8 fav (f). Only 3 finished. 7 ran. 13l, dist. E Caine. Tote: £5.50; £1.80, £3.10. DF: £8.10. CSF: £36.45.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Oat Couture (F Perratt, 5-2 fav); 2, Montrave (9-2); 3, Fox Sparrow (16-1). 11 ran. 13l, 6l. L Lungo. Tote: £4.80; £3.00, £2.20, £3.20. DF: £9.30. Trio: £145.30. CSF: £14.41. Tricast: £141.95.

Placepot: £57.50.

Quadpot: £20.70.

Market Rasen

Going: good to soft

1.40 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Heathview (F Leahy, 3-1); 2, Rustic Gent (4-1); 3, Blustery Fellow (13-8 fav). 6 ran. 20l, 30l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £4.00; £2.60, £1.90. DF: £11.50. CSF: £14.08.

2.10 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Tough Deal (S Wynne, 33-1); 2, Northern Nation (16-1); 3, Gunner Be Good (33-1); 4, Dibloom (25-1). Lambson 4-1 fav. 20 ran. NR: Garda's Gold. 4l, 1½l. P Bradley. Tote: £99.20; £13.20, £2.90, £41.20, £13.20. DF: £913.80. Trio: not won (pool of £877.16 carried forward to 4.05 at Sandown today). CSF: £477.37. Tricast: £14,539.40. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

2.45 (3m 1f ch) 1, Life Of A King (Mr J Greenall, 6-4); 2, Tacilejack (11-8 fav). Only two finished. 3 ran. Dist. Miss C Saunders. Tote: £2.30. DF: £1.80. CSF: £3.52.

3.15 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Golden Hello (L Wyer, 6-4 fav); 2, Rumi (7-1); 3, Miss The Post (10-1). 15 ran. NR: Senso. 20l, 1¼l. M H Easterby. Tote: £2.20; £1.40, £2.40, £2.60. DF: £10.40. CSF: £13.63.

3.50 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Memorable (D Byrne, 10-1); 2, Creeager (16-1); 3, Pollerton's Pride (33-1). Funetto 15-8 fav. 13 ran. NR: Shelton Abbey Hd. 4l. J Hetherton. Tote: £21.50; £3.60, £3.80, £6.70. DF: £158.10. Trio: not won (pool of £559.75 carried forward to 4.45 at Sandown today). CSF: £142.58. Tricast: £4,533.61

4.20 (2m 4f ch) 1, Oat's Regrets (J Osborne, 5-6 fav); 2, Sailor Jim (3-1); 3, Sedge Warbler (20-1). 9 ran. 11l, 4l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £1.50, £2.70. DF: £2.40. CSF: £3.96

4.50 (1m 5f 110yd Flat race) 1, Roufontaine (M Richards, 6-1); 2, Twice A Night (9-1); 3, Second Fiddle (7-1). Among Islands 5-2 fav. 20 ran. 2½l, 6l. W Muir. Tote: £6.00; £1.80, £3.00, £2.80. DF: £78.00. CSF: £68.59.

Placepot: £2,207.80. Quadpot: £60.00 (0.25 winning tickets. Pool of £60.90 carried forward to Sandown Park today).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	40	160	good	varied	fair	fair	6	8/3
(All pistes excellent, ski safari in great condition)								
Obergurgl	60	145	good	varied	good	fine	-4	8/3
(Brilliant skiing in full sunshine, no queues)								
Schladming	40	130	good	varied	fair	fair	8	9/3
(Excellent above 1,200m, heavy below due to mild air)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	245	460	good	powder	good	fine	2	8/3
(Vintage powder skiing)								
Courchevel	215	370	good	varied	good	fair	-3	9/3
(Pistes in perfect condition, great skiing)								
Tignes	235	300	good	powder	good	fine	-8	9/3
(Glorious skiing, sunny skies, some queueing)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	120	400	good	varied	good	sun	-2	8/3
(Excellent conditions)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	190	420	good	varied	good	fine	6	9/3
(Excellent piste skiing, very few skiers about)								
Grindelwald	40	195	good	varied	worn	fine	1	9/3
(Excellent skiing on all but lowest pistes)								
Klosters	70	190	good	varied	good	cloud	1	9/3
(Good skiing throughout area, all runs complete)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes: U - upper: art - artificial.

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Schoolboys take game back to age of innocence

ROB HUGHES

Weekend View

There has never been a more obvious need to protect the innocents in football than now: One thinks not of a "George Graham is innocent" campaign, but of the next generation of players, the schoolboys. At Wembley today, a crowd of more than 30,000 will watch England play Brazil at under-15 level.

The participants are boys cherished, honoured for their potential. They will stride out on what is still the most sacred turf in the world. They are descendents of a liaison that began 101 years ago, when Charles Miller sailed from Southampton to São Paulo, exporting the first football. Some have noticed that, particularly in the latter half of the century, our players at senior level have spent a considerable amount of time wondering if we will ever get our ball back.

So, we journey to Wembley this afternoon. Whether we see the joys of Brazil, as well as the boys from Brazil, is largely within the control of the England schoolboys. For they can stop the flare that attracts us so much, and England's chosen élite are confident enough, having scored seven times without reply against Belgium on a night of foul weather at Plymouth last week.

In the meantime, the young Brazilians, here for a cultural as well as a footballing exchange, flew in to a shock. It was raining heavily when they landed, and they were still feeling the chill on Tuesday night, when they lost 1-0 to Scotland at Hampden Park.

However, Malcolm Berry, chief executive of the England Schools FA, has been around the young Brazilians long enough to anticipate today with a keen relish.

"The really impressive thing about the Brazilian boys is their self discipline," Berry observes. "You see it in the hotel, and it is carried on to the training field.

"Their manager and four officials — all school teachers, by the way — really do envy the facilities they have seen in England schools. Yet, as soon as they take to the training field, you cannot help but notice that every boy has a ball, every one of them seems happy to spend many hours practising, whereas ours still get impatient, still prefer to practise less and to get involved in competitive play."

Still the old divide: the Brazilians from infancy learning to master the ball, enthralled by teaching it to obey their touch, the British obsessed with competition. But this is no time to belittle boys, especially the England boys who, by all accounts, scored some exotic goals in the victory over Belgium. Winning is not, or should not be at this level, all that the game is about.

These, after all, are boys scarcely through puberty and, when we speak of innocence, we surely know that 15-year-olds who have signed schoolboy forms with leading clubs are already likely to have encountered corruption. They, or their parents, will have been pursued in the shadowy way that English clubs chase talent. The parents may have been offered bribes, the element of sleaze will already have entered the boys' world.

Thankfully, there is a coming together in this country at last of the schools, the Football Association and the professional clubs. That was one reason why the FA a few days ago simply could not exonerate Chris Armstrong, the Crystal Palace forward, and allow him to play in the Coca-Cola Cup against Liverpool.

His offence, of using cannabis, may be thought by many to be relatively trivial. However, it is still an illegal drug and the FA programme has a purpose of care, an aim to set an example to children.

The authorities had to be seen to be reacting positively to the campaign of eradicating any drug culture. That is one thing that has the same meaning in Brazil as in England. The Brazilians scout their young talent even more fiercely than we do, and one Rio club alone boasts of its factory-farming methods, its intake of 3,000 boys in a single season. Imagine the enticements, the rejections and the temptations offered by drugs and other, similar escape routes for boys who are trying to forget the pressures.

The players at Wembley this afternoon are already survivors, though few of them are likely to be as lucky as the apprentices at Ajax, in Holland, or Auxerre, in France. Both those clubs maintain a policy of ensuring that the youth trainers stay with the boys for at least the majority of the learning years. We, alas, cannot guarantee that a youth-team coach will remain at his post for half a season.

Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, is drafting new rules to try to control the inducements offered to boys. "What we have to do is clarify what can be offered, and what promises can be made, to boys and their parents," he says. "We can't go on scattering professional contracts around to 14-year-old boys like confetti.

"We will draw up procedures, rules which parents as well as clubs will be asked to read. The scouts will carry identity cards, a government health warning if you like. And, most important, penalties for transgression, once the rules are specific, must be huge so that morality and welfare are safeguarded."

We look forward to it, just as those of us heading for Wembley today look for the blossoming of talent like the first buds of early spring. Sleaze? A million miles away.

May gives Stafford best hope of safety

Non-League Football
by Walter Gammie

STAFFORD Rangers head to the Crabble to play Dover Athletic today knowing that, after ten seasons in the Vauxhall Conference, their place is on the line. Defeat by Dover, who have played three fewer matches and lie eight points away in the position above the relegation zone, would send a cold blast through the bottom-placed club.

Michael Hughes, the secretary, said: "Relegation is unthinkable really. Financially it will be a disaster and status-wise we would be taking a step backwards. Anything below the Conference is now regarded as grass-roots football."

Stafford, remarkably, boast the Conference's leading goalscorer, Leroy May, who has scored 20 of their 41 league goals. Their cause has not been helped by May missing the past five matches with a knee injury and his return at Dover will be a boost, particularly as he will be paired with Steve Mardenborough, the former Lincoln and Darlington forward, scorer of two goals in two matches for the club.

"We are top of the league for spirit," Hughes said. "It is just points we need to get. We've got ten matches to go, still time to put a run together." Hughes believes that Mark Harrison, manager since November, deserves much credit for keeping spirits high. "Out of 18 matches we had lost 14 or something silly like that when he took over," Hughes said. "In 14 games since we have lost three, so there has been a big improvement."

Family affair finds Gallen keeping faith in his talent

Russell Kempson meets the young Rangers striker with Irish ties and England ambitions

Jack Charlton, the Ireland manager, has left no stone unturned in his search for the leprechaun. Born in Bow. English accent? No problem. Never been to Dublin to see your grandma? No problem. Get the green shirt on and wear it with pride. You'll enjoy the crack, too.

A policy riddled with blarney and ridiculed by the traditionalists, perhaps, but Charlton's colourful, cultural all-sorts have gone on to great things. However, he and his successors may yet rue the day when one got away; when Kevin Gallen, the Queens Park Rangers forward, cast aside his deep Irish ties and vowed allegiance to the cross of St George.

Gallen, 19, who plays in the FA Cup quarter-final against Manchester United at Old Trafford tomorrow, is of good Catholic stock. Jim, his father, a Rangers season ticket-holder, is from Donegal; Tess, his mother, from Mayo. Relatives live in abundance "back home" in the Republic, or in the shamrock community of Chicago, and his brothers — Joe, 22, a striker with Shrewsbury Town, and Steve, 21, a defender with Doncaster Rovers — have played for Ireland under-21s.

When the England Youth selectors came a-courting two years ago, it demanded the most awkward decision of his young life. Even now, it can prove a sensitive issue. "It took a while to think over," Gallen, who was born in Chiswick, London, said. "I kept wondering if I was going to look back and think, 'why did I do that?' But I've always wanted to play for England and I've no regrets at all now."

Gallen's preference still leaves him open to family criticism, especially after the crowd problems at the recent Ireland-England international match in Dublin, but it is airily dismissed with the same assurance that has seen him make such an impact in his first season in the FA Carling Premiership. When Steve labels him a "Brit", Kevin calls him "Paddy" — good-natured ribbing amid the playful banter of sibling rivalry.

"I sometimes get a bit of stick from the relations in Ireland but Steve's the worst," Gallen said. "He also calls me a traitor, but I got my own back at dinner the other day when he asked me why I wasn't eating my meal. I told him there was no way I was going to eat Irish potatoes."

It was a tough sacrifice, with his liking of food almost legendary in the Gallen household in Acton, a brief jog from Loftus Road. He returned from holiday in the United States last summer, having taken in Ireland's 2-1 defeat against Mexico, with his belt expanded an alarming five notches more than usual.

"It was scandalous, a disgrace," Gallen, 5ft 11in, and about 12 stone when on pasta and salads, said. "I put on weight very easily but I can also take it off very quickly. It took me only a week to lose it. Anyway, that's what pre-season training is for, isn't it?" A sparky, happy-go-lucky attitude belies a serious, sensible nature when discussion turns to football. His inner resolve has rarely wavered, and even when scoring regularly for the Rangers youth team, while still attending the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School in Kensington, he knew he could improve. "The other lads were training every day while I was able to make it only twice a week," he said. "I kept thinking, 'wait until I get fit, then judge me'. I suppose I kept my word." He has, too. In three seasons in the youth team, he amassed 153 goals from 110 matches. He scored nine in eight for England Schools and 11 in 14 for England Youth, with whom he won a winners' medal in the 1993 European championship. Now, he no longer cleans the boots of Ian Holloway — "I just used to polish over the dirt" — but graces the same team-sheet.

Eight goals from 26 outings represent a fair return in such company and, anyway, he likens himself to Shearer or Klinsmann, not Cole or Lineker. "I'm not just a goalscorer, never have been," he said. "I've always felt I'm a good team player. I don't mind hard work, and that's what I've tried to carry on since I broke into the side."

Competing in the Premiership spotlight does have its drawbacks. In January last year, when he was playing in the South East Counties League first division, he did not have to contend with female admirers. In January this year, he did, a besotted woman pestering him with phone calls and hiding in bushes outside his home.

Gallen finds consolation in a burgeoning career and the emerging, exciting proof of his early self-belief. "A surprise? Not really," he said. "It's all about self-confidence. I've always thought I'd be capable of doing it. Maybe it's taken me a while to adjust, but I think I'm coping quite well."

In a weak moment, Jack Charlton — Guinness in one hand, gun in the other — would probably agree.

ROBIN MAYES

Gallen hopes to demonstrate his goalscoring pedigree in the FA Cup quarter-finals at Old Trafford tomorrow

SIXTH ROUND FORM GUIDE

Four of the eight teams in the sixth round this weekend have reached this stage of the FA Cup more than 20 times. Manchester United, the holders, have the best record of progressing beyond the quarter-finals with 18 wins from 24 attempts. Queens Park Rangers and Crystal Palace have yet to win the Cup, the former having past this round once in five visits.

Sixth round record

	W	L
Manchester Utd	18	6
Liverpool	15	5
Everton	14	7
Tottenham	11	10
Wolverhampton	7	9
Newcastle	6	4
Crystal Palace	2	2
QPR	1	4

Crystal Palace v Wolverhampton Wanderers

The clubs have met three times, most recently last year in the third round, where Wolves triumphed at home 1-0. The Midlands side has won two meetings out of three. Previous ties: 1908-09, 2-2, 4-2 (replay); 1978-79, 0-1; 1993-94, 0-1.

FA CUP

Everton v Newcastle United

The Merseysiders are unbeaten in the FA Cup against Newcastle, having met twice before. The clubs' last meeting was more than 70 years ago so there is no recent form to go on. They also contested the 1905-06 final. Previous ties: 1905-06, 1-0; 1920-21, 3-0.

Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur

Liverpool are also unbeaten against their North London opposition. They have met on four occasions, two ties going to replays. In the last meeting, 1984-85, the result was settled by a single goal from Ian Rush. Previous ties: 1967-68, 1-1, 2-1 (replay); 1970-71, 0-0, 1-0 (replay); 1979-80, 1-0; 1984-85, 1-0.

Manchester United v Queens Park Rangers

Rangers are the underdogs. Not only are they playing the holders and have the poorest FA Cup record of the teams left, they also have yet to beat United in the competition. The closest QPR came was in 1988-89. Previous ties: 1976-77, 1-0; 1988-89, 0-0, 2-2 (replay), 3-0 (2nd replay); 1990-91, 2-1.

Goals and goalscorers

Tottenham have scored more goals than any of the teams left in this season's competition, courtesy of their 6-2 fifth-round replay win over Southampton. Individually, Ronnie Rosenthal leads the way with four goals.

JULIAN DESBOROUGH

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer East **North-South game**

♠9 6
♥A Q J 6
♦K 9 6
♣A J 9 7

♠K Q J 10 5 4 2
♥8 5 3
♦7
♣Q 3

N
W E
S

♠7 6 3
♥4
♦Q J 10 8 5 3
♣8 6 2

♠A
♥K 10 9 7 2
♦A 4 2
♣K 10 5 4

W	N	E	S
—	—	Pass	1♥
3♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
5♠(1)	6♥	All Pass	

Contract: Six Hearts by South. Lead: Seven of diamonds

By Robert Sheehan
Bridge Correspondent

(1) This is unsound — once you have pre-empted, you should not bid again unless your pre-empt was non-standard.

Declarer won the diamond lead, drew trumps in three rounds, cashed the ace of spades, crossed to the king of diamonds, ruffed a spade and exited with a diamond. Declarer hoped East would broach the club suit for him. However, East could count that declarer had a 4-4 club fit; thus giving him a ruff and discard would not help him.

He played a fourth diamond. Declarer pitched a club from hand, ruffed in dummy, and still had to guess the queen of clubs. As he knew East had three clubs to West's two (by now Wes's shape was known to be 7-3-1-2) he played the ace of clubs and ran the jack. Down one.

Declarer could have done better. He knew from the bidding and play to the first few tricks that West had seven spades and three trumps. What he should have done was to play the ace and jack of clubs before playing the third diamond. If West won he would have to concede a ruff and discard and declarer could dispose of his diamond loser; if the jack of clubs held declarer could afford to lose a diamond.

This deal (rotated for convenience) comes from *Over Your Shoulder* by Tony Forrester and Brian Senior, published by B T Batsford (£8.99). The authors each present twelve deals where they report on the events that actually occurred and then comment on the actions taken by each player, first in the bidding and secondly in the play. It makes for an entertaining read and contains many instructive points.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Clock victory

There was a sensational upset in the first round of the Professional Chess Association qualifying match for the World Championship between two Grandmasters, Viswanathan Anand (India) and Gata Kamsky (US). Anand, widely regarded as the world's fastest player, became mesmerised by the clock and lost on time forfeit in an advantageous position.

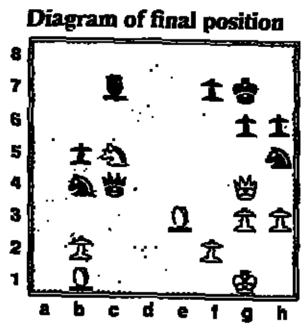
White: Viswanathan Anand
Black: Gata Kamsky
PCA Qualifier, Las Palmas, March 1995

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	0-0	Be7
6	Re1	b5
7	Bb3	d6
8	c3	0-0
9	h3	Bb7
10	d4	Re8
11	Nbd2	Bf8
12	a4	h6
13	Bc2	exd4
14	cxd4	Nb4
15	Bb1	g6
16	Ra3	Bg7
17	e5	dxe5
18	dxe5	Nh5
19	axb5	axb5
20	Qb3	c5
21	Ne4	Bxe5
22	Nxc5	Bxf3
23	Qxf3	Rc8
24	Ne4	Kg7
25	Rd1	Qe7
26	Be3	Red8
27	Ra7	Qe6
28	Nc5	Rxd1+
29	Qxd1	Qd5
30	Qg4	Rc7
31	Rxc7	Bxc7
32	g3	Qc4

White lost on time

Diagram of final position



Short wins

Nigel Short struck back with a fierce miniature win, exploiting his opponent's risky opening play, in round seven of the Linares tournament.

White: Alexei Dreev
Black: Nigel Short
Linares, March 1995

Queen's gambit declined

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	d5
4	Nc3	Be7
5	Bf4	0-0
6	e3	c5
7	dxc5	Bxc5
8	a3	Nc6
9	Rc1	a6
10	cxd5	exd5
11	Bg5	d4
12	Nb5	dxe3
13	Qxd8	exf2+
14	Ke2	Rxd8
15	Bxf6	Re8+
16	Kd1	gxf6
17	Rxc5	Bg4
18	Nc3	Nd4
19	Bc4	Nxf3
20	Kc2	Bf5+
21	Kb3	Nd2+
22	Ka2	Be6

White resigns

Plain touch helps Rush to flourish

Peter Ball on the attributes that have taken Liverpool's captain close to an FA Cup record

During the Christmas holiday, a Manchester United player discovered he had left his son's football boots at the training ground. Instead of going back for them, he sent a taxi. When the boots arrived, they were accompanied by a note from a member of the coaching staff. "Have you forgotten your roots?" it inquired.

It is impossible to imagine that question being asked at Anfield. For all their success Liverpool have remained true to their roots, a great football club, but one without the style or glamour of its rival along the East Lancs Road.

Nobody epitomises that quality better than Liverpool's captain and most prolific goalscorer, Ian Rush, who today, in the sixth-round tie with Tottenham Hotspur, has the opportunity to break Denis Law's modern-day record of 41 FA Cup goals. Rush is the opposite of glamorous. His homely features and haircut recall the days when such legends of the game as Tommy Lawton and Dixie Dean were indistinguishable from the ordinary working men who made up their audience.

Yet Rush is undoubtedly one of the best players to adorn the modern game. When he left Liverpool for an unhappy spell in Italy in 1987, Howard Kendall, the former Everton manager, said: "We are talking not just of a world-class player, but of one of the greatest players in the history of the game."

Not often a scorer of outstanding goals, certainly not of spectacular ones, Rush performs his work by stealth and has few equals as a goalscorer. "The greatest goalscorer since Jimmy Greaves," Law said when Rush equalled his record against Wimbledon in the fifth round.

No exaggeration, certainly in the days before his move to Italy. Then, during the Liverpool successes of the Eighties, his tally was 139 goals in 224 league matches, much higher than the goal every two matches that is regarded as the mark of an outstanding striker.

Since his return, he has scored a comparatively ordinary 80 goals in 215 league games. Perhaps the troubled year in Italy blunted the sharp edge; yet in his absence Liverpool's style had changed with the arrival of Beardsley and Barnes, who both dwelt on the ball longer than did Liverpool when Rush's partnership with Kenny Dalglish was at its height.

This season has been Rush's least rewarding, with only seven league goals, but in cup games he has remained lethal as Blackburn Rovers, the victims of a hat-trick in the Coca-Cola Cup, can testify.

Equally important, his contribution to the success of Robbie Fowler, his partner, apprentice and heir apparent, has been supreme. To concentrate on his goalscoring obscures the fact that, unlike Gary Lineker, goalscoring is only half of Rush's game.

No other goalscorer has worked so hard or so selflessly to contribute to the rest of the team, both in the build-up, and as a first line of defence. In Liverpool's heyday, he was a key figure, receiving the ball out of defence, laying it off neatly and racing off to take the cross or pass.

Nowadays, the electrifying burst of speed over short distances that made him such a threat to careless defenders may have been dulled, but experience has compensated. Patently unhappy in the latter days of Graeme Souness's reign, when a division grew between the senior and younger players at Anfield, he is now thriving on the responsibility of guiding Fowler to fulfilment and, as captain, on leading the team.

"With him and John Barnes it is like having two coaches on the field for me," Roy Evans, the manager, said after the win over Newcastle United last week. "Rushy does more moaning than coaching these days," Barnes said, but his contribution to revitalising Liverpool has been immense.

Rush: prolific goalscorer

IAN RUSH'S FA CUP GOALS

Chester City

1979-80: First round: v Workington (1). Third round: v Newcastle (1). Fourth round: v Millwall (1).

Liverpool

1980-1: Third round: v Swansea (2). Fourth round: v Sunderland (1).

1981-2: Third round: v Blackburn (1). Fourth round: v Stoke (1).

1983-4: Third round: v Newcastle (2).

1984-5: Third round: v Aston Villa (2). Fourth round: v Tottenham (1). Fifth round: v York (1). Sixth round: v Barnsley (3)

1985-6: Fourth round: v Chelsea (1). Sixth round (replay): v Watford (1). Semi-final: v Southampton (2) Final: v Everton (2).

1988-9: Fourth round: v Millwall (1). Final: v Everton (2).

1989-90: Third round: v Swansea (3). Fifth round: v Southampton (1). Sixth round: v QPR (1). Semi-final: v C Palace (2)

1990-1: Third round (replay): v Blackburn (1). Fourth round: v Brighton (2). Fourth round (replay): Fourth round (replay): v Brighton (1) Fifth round (replay): v Everton (1).

1991-2: Final: v Sunderland (1)

1992-3: Third round: v Bolton (1).

1993-4: Third round: v Bristol City (1).

1994-5: Fifth round (replay): v Wimbledon (1).

Total 41

Leading FA Cup scorers

48: H Cursham (Notts Co, 1880-7).

41: I Rush (Chester City, Liverpool, 1979-95)

41: D Law (Huddersfield Town, Manchester City, Manchester United, 1957-74)

38: A Clarke (Walsall, Fulham, Leeds United, Leicester City, Barnsley, 1963-85)

Holford to take on Transvaal again

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

RUGBY union in England holds its breath this weekend. The International Rugby Football Board's deliberations over the venue for the 1999 World Cup continue in Bristol, players from England and Scotland, who meet in the decisive five nations' championship match next Saturday, run through their routines, while the county championship semi-finals occupy the competitive pride of place.

In addition, Northern Transvaal's six-match tour reaches its conclusion at Gloucester, where the Kingsholm faithful are still mulling over the abrupt departure of Barrie Corless, their director of rugby, and the drawn match at Bath last week. It is a mixed bag, also containing a Heineken League programme in Wales and, in Scotland, a relegation struggle in the McEwan's League.

Northern Transvaal, who beat an Emerging Players XV 19-3 on Wednesday, emphasised that a leading South African provincial team is just the kind of opposition that England's representative teams should be seeking. They provided a far greater challenge than those posed earlier in the season during victories over Canada's second string and Romania A.

The South Africans' tour has been a far more valid one than that undertaken by Canterbury before Christmas; again, the presence of a leading New Zealand team in the country should have provided fodder for England's A or Emerging Players, rather than the cannon fodder their schedule, with the exception of Bristol, embraced.

Northern Transvaal return home to offer the Ivory Coast and Western Samoa warm-up games — possibly too warm — before the World Cup. Gloucester, deprived by England A of Richard West, their lock, by Gloucestershire of Tim Smith, and by injury of Mark Mapletoft and Andy Powles, include on the wing Paul Holford, who was not so far from a try at the death for the Emerging Players at Bristol on Wednesday. Smith, meanwhile, travels to Tynedale, where Gloucestershire play Northumberland for a place in the CIS county championship final on April 22.

Both counties have appeared in finals before, as have Warwickshire, but the fourth semi-finalists, Berkshire, have never done so. Should they beat Warwickshire at Rugby, it would be an apt tribute in the season one of their own, Dennis Easby, is president of the Rugby Football Union.

Berkshire's success has been squarely based on the Reading club, and has carried them past such doughty opponents as Cornwall and, in the southern group play-off, Kent. They have every reason to applaud the format introduced this season, which effectively allows each of 15 counties in the southern half of the country the chance to reach Twickenham, and which will be retained next season.

Pontypridd's pursuit of Cardiff at the head of the Heineken League continues at Sardis Road against Neath, though without the injured trio of Dale McIntosh, Owain Robbins and Mark Spiller. With four matches remaining, Cardiff enjoy a superior try count, which may be enhanced at Abertillery, although curiously the struggling Gwent club has one of the best overall records against Cardiff.

Kingsley Jones plays his third league game of the season in Pontypridd's back row, and Neil Jenkins will sustain his assault on the club points record of 1,407 set by Colin Bolderson between 1971-79. At present, the Welsh stand-off half is 23 points short.

☐ West London Institute and Swansea will contest the final of the British Universities Sports Association competition at Twickenham on March 22. It will be the second successive final for WLI, who beat Loughborough 27-12 in their delayed semi-final at Cambridge.

Stand firm behind the stand-off

Gerald Davies makes a plea for support for Neil Jenkins, the man in the Welsh hot seat

IN 1988 Jonathan Davies chose to leave rugby union in Wales to play rugby league in the North of England. His last match was against Romania and Wales lost under his captaincy. The time between the final whistle and the match dinner was spent fulfilling the demands for post-mortem interviews. Underneath the north stand at Cardiff he was a disconsolate and lonely figure.

He carries his broad shoulders with a slight stoop at the best of times and looks, despite the swagger, as if he might be bearing the weight of enormous responsibility. On this occasion the burden seemed real. His whole frame drooped. The captivating smile, which the whole world knows, had vanished.

This was not necessarily because of the afternoon's loss; rather it was because the accumulating criticism of his play over several months was growing unbearable. He knew, confident man that he is, that he was the best stand-off half in Wales at the time. The criticisms were uninformed and unperceptive.

He was also aware that, more often than not, it is the stand-off half in Wales who, disproportionately, has to take the blame for the team's failure. Stand-off half wears the monarch's crown one moment, the dunce's cap the next.

"*Rwy Wedi Danto*" were Davies's words in Welsh; in translation meaning he was fed up, sickened. The sniping had proved too much. But the prophet indeed found that he was not without honour, save in his own country. Davies has prospered ever since and in every way. He has an MBE — for services to rugby league naturally. His countrymen in the meantime have been left to lament.

This may appear a roundabout way to arrive at Neil Jenkins's door. But there are parallels. He is going through a similar phase to Davies. Criticism showers on Jenkins's head. Whatever failures lie elsewhere, Welsh weaknesses, as ever, land at the stand-off half's feet. It is grossly unfair.

Jenkins may not be the aesthete's favourite. There are no artistic glides or sidesteps which might appeal to the poet. Wales might prefer it that way, but it should not necessarily be the case. What Jenkins is, is a prolific scorer. He has accumulated 346 points for his country and more than 1,000 for Pontypridd in the Heineken League and is the first player to do so. In addition, he has accumulated 31 league tries.

He is not of Davies's type, a quintessential quick-silver runner, sharp as a needle. But the problem for Jenkins is that he is not seen in this mode. More of a quiet general; somewhat intense without Davies's insouciance. Analysed in the modern way, Jenkins's work-rate is high, so is his tackle-count. He remains immensely influential for his club in the way he does not, apart from his goal-kicking, for his country. Why not?

There are those who have suggested that he moves to full back or centre, where he has already represented Wales. But unless he continues to play in either of these positions at club level, where can he gather the feel and tempo of the positions?. The instinctive responses, nurtured by continuous play, are crucial in a game played at international pace.

Jenkins is a fine player and he proves his case every Saturday. Condemning Jenkins, however, is to miss the point. The initial problem lies among the forwards. The possession which Jenkins could use most profitably in the loose is either too slow or is frequently lost.

He has yet to be made to feel comfortable with his decisions at international level. He looks confused by his role. Assertive for his club, he is not so for his country. At this stage, it is advice he needs, not brickbats.

But the critics are baying for his young blood as they once did for Davies's. Jenkins is already showing signs of weariness. Once more the predators, seeing a wounded figure, are circling in wait. Rugby league has already shown an interest. When will it move in for the kill?

IAN STEWART

Jenkins has proved a marvellous goal-kicker both for his club and country

ARU extending boundaries in World Cup bid

By David Hands

IS IT mere coincidence that, on the same weekend, rugby league's expanded Winfield Cup competition has been launched across three time-zones in East and West Australia and New Zealand while, with somewhat less pomp, rugby union's southern-hemisphere leaders are offering a World Cup spread even further afield?

Of course it is, yet there is an irresistible comparison to be drawn between the professional and amateur branches of the two rugby codes. For months, nay years, the New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) had been biting its nails at the projected impact on its national game when the Auckland Warriors joined the Winfield Cup, and yesterday the hour arrived. The Warriors made their bow with a 25-22 defeat by Brisbane Broncos.

It is a problem that the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) has endured for decades, but has emerged from with some confidence. Yet its attitudes have been shaped by the sustained rivalry, by the perennial migration of Australia's best players, and there can be little doubt that if the ARU can trumpet the return of rugby union's biggest tournament to the southern hemisphere, it would be a wonderful promotional tool to offset inroads that the league authorities may hope to make through their revamped competition, which now extends from Perth to Auckland.

However, the bid that Australia will front in Bristol this morning for the 1999 World Cup goes a step further even than the logistical complexities of the Winfield Cup. The proposal, for obvious commercial reasons, embraces Japan (where association football is making challenging strides) as well as New Zealand, and, despite all the fine promises and low oaths sworn after the 1987 and 1991 tournaments were played across national boundaries, their presentation to the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) will cover time-zones more than six hours and thousands of miles apart, never mind problems of law, currency and taxation.

"It's a much more professional submission than has been done by anyone before," Eddie Tonks, the NZRFU council chairman, said. "We've addressed everything — stadiums, all money matters, television rights. We've produced costs for a 16-team competition and one for a 20-team contest. It's all there."

Who would doubt it? The ARU now takes advice from the International Management Group (IMG), and its emphasis will doubtless be on the selling power of television — particularly to a potential new market in Asia, off the back of a pool played in Japan — and on a huge projected financial return, while playing down the time differences and the effects of so much travel on those upon whom any sporting event depends, the players.

In that respect, it will be instructive to hear how rugby league's leading lights enjoy swanning back and forth across Australasia to play their games. Against that, Wales, in the afternoon, will offer to the IRFB a far more geographically cohesive tournament, even if it is not the coherent entity they originally envisaged.

My colleague, Gerald Davies, and Glanmore Griffiths, treasurer of the Welsh Rugby Union, make the presentation, and are bound to stress the increasing popularity of the game, which shows no sign of abating, the scope for sponsorship, and the ease of access, for competitors and supporters, from one centre to another.

Yet, when all is said and done, the horse-trading that has gone on may determine the outcome; whether a quid pro quo of support for a French bid in 2003 has ensured French votes for Wales, whether promises of international fixtures may underpin the Australian bid. Whatever is decided, rugby followers should enjoy the 1995 tournament in South Africa — after that, the passports will be coming out again.

England have picked a new squad for the Hong Kong Sevens after Northampton and Harlequins withdrew their first-team players.

ENGLAND SQUAD: Backs: N Greenstock (Wasps), A Healey (Orrell), S Hackney (Leicester), D Scully (Wakefield), A Adebayo (Bath), D O'Leary (Harlequins), J Keyler (Harlequins), C Yates (Sale). Forwards: P Scrivener (Wasps), D Eves (Bristol), M Pepper (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens), R Hill (Saracens).

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Cup
Sixth round
(—) * C Palace v Wolverhampton
(—) * Liverpool v Tottenham

FA Carling Premiership
(1) Chelsea v Leeds
(2) Coventry v Blackburn
(3) * Leicester v Nott'm Forest
(—) Sheffield Weds v Wimbledon
(4) West Ham v Norwich

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	32	22	6	4	67	27	72
Man Utd	32	21	6	5	63	22	69
Newcastle	32	17	9	6	54	33	60
Liverpool	29	15	9	5	50	23	54
Nottm Forest	32	14	9	9	46	38	51
Tottenham	30	13	8	9	51	42	47
Leeds	29	11	10	8	35	29	43
Sheff Wed	32	11	10	11	40	40	43
Arsenal	32	10	10	12	36	36	40
Chelsea	30	10	10	10	39	40	40
Aston Villa	33	9	12	12	46	46	39
Coventry	32	9	12	11	33	47	39
Wimbledon	31	11	6	14	36	54	39
QPR	29	10	8	11	45	47	38
Norwich	31	9	11	11	28	34	38
Man City	31	9	10	12	39	47	37
Everton	32	8	11	13	33	43	35
Southampton	29	6	14	9	40	46	32
West Ham	31	9	5	17	28	41	32
Crystal Palace	30	7	10	13	21	31	31
Ipswich	32	6	5	21	31	72	23
Leicester	31	4	9	18	33	58	21

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
(5) * Bolton v Middlesbrough
(6) *Burnley v Oldham*
(7) Charlton v Portsmouth
(8) Derby v Millwall
(9) Notts County v Sheff Utd
(10) Port Vale v Bristol City
(11) Reading v Barnsley
(12) Southend v Luton
(13) Sunderland v Stoke
(14) Tranmere v Grimsby
(—) Watford v Swindon

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tranmere	35	18	8	9	55	38	62
Middlesbrough	33	18	8	7	49	26	62
Wolves	33	18	5	10	58	43	59
Sheff Utd	35	15	12	8	59	39	57
Bolton	33	16	9	8	56	35	57
Reading	35	16	8	11	41	32	56
Grimsby	35	12	13	10	51	44	49
Barnsley	32	14	7	11	43	39	49
Luton	34	13	9	12	48	47	48
Millwall	33	12	12	9	43	38	48
Watford	33	12	11	10	36	35	47
Derby	33	12	10	11	38	33	46
Oldham	33	11	10	12	45	45	43
Charlton	33	11	9	13	45	49	42
Stoke	31	10	11	10	32	35	41
West Brom	35	11	8	16	32	44	41
Portsmouth	34	10	10	14	38	49	40
Port Vale	32	10	9	13	39	43	39
Southend	35	11	6	18	34	63	39
Sunderland	34	8	15	11	32	33	39
Bristol City	35	10	8	17	34	49	38
Swindon	32	8	10	14	38	53	34
Notts County	34	7	8	19	36	49	29
Burnley	32	6	10	16	30	51	28

Second division
(15) Birmingham v Swansea
(16) *Bournem'th v Rotherham*
(17) Bradford v Plymouth
(18) Brentford v Stockport
(19) Brighton v Wrexham
(20) Bristol Rov v Wycombe
(21) Camb'ge Utd v Oxford Utd
(22) Cardiff v York
(23) Crewe v Peterborough
(24) Hudd'field v Chester
(25) Hull v Leyton Orient
(26) Shrewsbury v Blackpool

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	34	19	6	9	64	30	63
Huddersfield	35	17	12	6	60	38	63
Birmingham	31	17	9	5	59	25	60
Crewe	33	18	5	10	59	51	59
Oxford Utd	34	17	8	9	55	40	59
Blackpool	36	17	7	12	56	52	58
Wycombe	31	15	10	6	44	34	55
Hull	32	15	8	9	52	40	53
Swansea	33	13	13	7	48	35	52
Bradford	33	14	9	10	47	45	51
Bristol Rovers	31	13	11	7	51	31	50
York	33	15	5	13	50	41	50
Stockport	34	14	6	14	48	47	48
Wrexham	32	12	11	9	52	44	47
Rotherham	33	10	11	12	42	43	41
Brighton	33	10	11	12	37	39	41
Shrewsbury	34	10	10	14	45	48	40
Peterborough	33	9	13	11	41	57	40
Cambridge Utd	34	7	12	15	41	58	33
Bournemouth	35	7	8	20	34	63	29
Plymouth	32	8	5	19	32	64	29
Cardiff	33	6	7	20	33	58	25
Leyton Orient	33	5	7	21	25	53	22
Chester	34	4	8	22	28	65	20

Third division
(27) Doncaster v Barnet
(28) Exeter v Carlisle
(29) Hartlepool v Colchester
(30) Mansfield v Lincoln
(31) Preston v Fulham
(32) Rochdale v North'pton
(33) Scarborough v Gill'ham
(34) Scunthorpe v Bury
(35) Torquay v Darlington
(36) Walsall v Chest'field
(37) Wigan v Hereford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	31	21	8	2	53	19	71
Chesterfield	31	16	9	6	43	29	57
Walsall	28	16	8	4	53	28	56
Mansfield	32	16	5	11	65	43	53
Bury	28	15	7	6	44	20	52
Doncaster	31	13	9	9	40	26	48
Colchester	31	13	8	10	40	44	47
Fulham	31	11	13	7	44	37	46
Preston	31	13	7	11	40	33	46
Scunthorpe	31	13	6	13	49	43	44
Barnet	30	12	7	11	36	41	43
Torquay	32	11	9	12	46	42	42
Lincoln	30	11	7	12	37	35	40
Wigan	30	11	6	13	44	47	39
Rochdale	30	10	8	12	35	50	38
Darlington	30	10	6	14	35	40	36
Hereford	32	8	8	16	34	53	32
Exeter	30	8	7	15	28	48	31
Northampton	32	6	10	16	32	51	28
Gillingham	30	7	6	17	31	48	27
Hartlepool	31	6	8	17	28	53	26
Scarborough	30	5	7	18	33	53	22

Vauxhall Conference
(—) Bromsgrove v Dagenham and R
(—) Dover v Stafford
(—) Farnborough v Bath
(—) Gateshead v Kidd'minster
(—) Kettering v Halifax
(38) Macclesfield v Northwich
(39) *Merthyr v Telford*
(40) Runcorn v Yeovil
(41) Southport v Welling
(42) Stalybridge v Altrincham
(43) Woking v Stevenage

Beazer Homes League
Premier division
(—) *Atherstone v Sudbury*
(—) Chelmsford v Gravesend and N
(—) Cheltenham v Hednesford
(—) Crawley v Gresley
(44) Dorchester v Leek
(45) Halesowen v Sitt'bourne
(46) Hastings v Gloucester
(47) Rushden and D v Corby
(—) Solihull v Cambridge City
(—) VS Rugby v Burton
(—) Worcester v Trowbridge

Tennents Scottish Cup
Fifth round
(48) Raith v Airdrie
(49) Stenhousemuir v Hibernian

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
(—) Partick v Aberdeen
(—) Rangers v Falkirk
First division
(—) Clydebank v Ayr
(—) *Dunf'mline v St Johnstone*
(—) Stranraer v St Mirren
Second division
(50) Clyde v Brechin
(51) Meadowbank v East Fife
(52) Queen Of South v G Morton
(53) Stirling v Berwick
Third division
(54) Arbroath v East Stirling
(55) Cowdenbeath v Forfar
(56) Montrose v Caley This
(57) Queen's Park v Alloa
(58) Ross County v Albion

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Ashford v Salisbury; Baldock v Clevedon, Burnham v Weymouth, Havant v Fareham; Newport IoW v Bashley; Poole v Braintree; Tonbridge AFC v Witney; Wealdstone v Waterlooville, Weston-super-Mare v Erith and Belvedere; Yate v Bury Town. Midland division: Bilston v RC Warwick; Evesham v Moor Green, Forest Green v Tamworth; Hinckley Town v Bedworth; Ilkeston v Bridgnorth, Leicester United v Dudley; Newport AFC v King's Lynn, Nuneaton v Grantham; Rothwell v Armitage, Stourbridge v Redditch. Sutton Coldfield v Buckingham Town

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Spennymoor; Boston United v Marine; Chorley v Droylsden, Colwyn Bay v Bishop Auckland; Guiseley v Hyde, Knowsley v Frickley; Morecambe v Gainsborough, Winsford v Accrington Stanley; Witton v Matlock. First division: Alfreton v Netherfield; Ashton United v Congleton; Blyth Spartans v Bamber Bridge, Farsley Celtic v Atherton L R; Fleetwood v Caernarfon; Great Harwood v Eastwood Town. Gretna v Lancaster; Radcliffe v Mossley, Warrington v Goole; Workington v Harrogate Town, Worksop v Curzon Ashton.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Chesham v Grays, Enfield v Hitchin; Hayes v Wokingham; Hendon v Bromley; Kingstonian v Harrow; Marlow v Yeading, Molesey v Carshalton; Purfleet v Aylesbury; Slough v Bishop's Stortford; St Albans v Walton and Hersham. Sutton United v Dulwich. First division: Aldershot Town v Whyteleafe, Barking v Berkhamsted; Bognor Regis v Leyton, Boreham Wood v Billericay; Chertsey v Heybridge Swifts. Maidenhead v Dorking; Newbury v Tooting and Mitcham; Uxbridge v Basingstoke; Wembley v Abingdon Town, Wivenhoe v Ruislip Manor; Worthing v Staines Second division: Aveley v Leatherhead; Barton v Bracknell; Chalfont St Peter v Cheshunt: Croydon v Banstead, Edgware v Hampton, Egham v Malden Vale; Metropolitan Police v Hemel Hempstead, Oxford City v Saffron Walden. Tilbury v Witham. Ware v Hungerford; Windsor and Eton v Thame Third division: Bedford Town v Southall, Camberley v Clapton, Canvey Island v Lewes: Cove v Hertford, East Thurrock v *Feltham and Hounslow; Epsom and Ewell* v Northwood: Harlow v Kingsbury, Hornchurch v Horsham; Leighton v Collier Row. Tring v Harefield.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Cwmbran; Bangor City v Connah's Quay; Caersws v Barry; Holywell v Conwy, Llanelli v Afan Lido, Llansantffraid v Rhyl; Maesteg Park v Ebbw Vale; Newtown v Flint Town, Ton Pentre v Inter Cardiff (2.30).

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Concord v Gt Wakering, Eton Manor v Burnham R; Maldon v Brentwood.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barkingside v Walthamstow Pennant, Beaconsfield Sycob v Amersham, Hanwell v Hillingdon, St Margaretsbury v Cockfosters, Tower Hamlets v Haringey; Waltham Abbey v Brook House; Willesden v Brimsdown

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Ash v Viking Sports. Cranleigh v Horley; DCA Basingstoke v Merstham; Eton Wick v Chipstead, Farnham v Bedfont; Godalming and G v Hartley Wintney; *Peppard v Ashford; Westfield v Sandhurst.* Vase: Third round: Netherne v Cobham.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunstable v Arlesey; Hatfield v Brache Sparta; Hoddesdon v Buckingham Ath, Letchworth GC v Harpenden; Milton Keynes v Potters Bar, Royston v Shillington; Welwyn GC v Langford.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Mangotsfield; Chippenham v Torrington; Frome v Westbury; Paulton v Crediton, Bridport v Barnstaple.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Ringmer; Burgess Hill v Whitehawk; East Grinstead v Southwick; Eastbourne Town v Portfield, Hailsham v *Pagham; Langney Sports v Three Bridges;* Littlehampton v Stamco; Shoreham v Newhaven.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham v Ramsgate; Chatham v Cray; Darenth Heathside v Slade Green, Greenwich v Whitstable; Herne Bay v Thamesmead; Kent Police v Sheppey First division Cup: Semi-final, second leg: *Dartford v Tunbridge Wells.*

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard v Great Yarmouth, Felixstowe v Halstead; Harwich and Parkeston v Hadleigh; Lowestoft v Chatteris, March v Sudbury; Soham v Wroxham; Stowmarket v Diss; Tiptree v Fakenham; Woodbridge v Wisbech Cup: Semi-final; Ely v Newmarket.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover v Gosport, Bournemouth v Brockenhurst; Christchurch v Fleet; East Cowes Vics v AFC Lymington; Portsmouth v Petersfield; Swanage and Herston v Horndean; Thatcham v Ryde Sports; Wimborne v AFC Totton.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Kempston; Cogenhoe v Holbeach; Desborough v S and L Corby; Long Buckby v Spalding; Newport Pagnell v Mirrlees Blackstone, Stamford v Raunds. Stotfold v Northampton Spencer, Wellingborough v Eynesbury; Wootton v Bourne.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Knypersley Vic; Brierley *Hill v Shifnal; Chasetown v Bolehall Swifts;* Halesowen Harr v Boldmere St Michael; Oldbury v West Midlands Police; Rocester v Sandwell, Rushall v Pagel; Shepshed Dynamo v Stapenhill, Stratford v Hinckley Athletic; Willenhall v Pershore.

SKOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bloxwich v Meir KA; Chelmsley v Northfield; Coleshill v Kings Heath; Sherwood Celtic v Highgate; Upton v Handrahan Timbers; Wellesbourne v Knowle.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich Strollers v Ludlow, Darlaston FC v Malvern; Gornal v Stourport Swifts; Lye v Blakenall; Tividale FC v Cradley; Hill Top v Pelsall Villa; Wednesfield v Ettingshall HT, Westfields v Manders FC.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare v Brigg; Belper v Pickering, Denaby v Arnold; Hucknall v Glasshoughton Welfare; Lincoln Utd v Ashfield, Liversedge v Stocksbridge PS; North Ferriby v Ossett Town; Ossett Albion v Maltby MW; Pontefract Collieries v Thackley; Sheffield v Hallam.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: *First division:* Bootle v St Helens; Clitheroe v Bradford Park Avenue; Eastwood Hanley v Salford; Holker Old Boys v Burscough; Maine Road v Kidsgrove, Nantwich v Darwen; Newcastle Town v Penrith; Prescot v Blackpool Rovers; Rossendale v Bacup; Skelmersdale v Glossop North End. Cup: Quarter-final: Penrith v Trafford

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v Seaham Red Star; Dunston FB v Consett; Durham v Chester-le-Street; Eppleton CW v Guisborough, Hebburn v Peterlee; Northallerton v Bedlington Terriers; RTM Newcastle v Ferryhill; Shildon v Prudhoe; West Auckland v Murton; Whitby v Tow Law.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: *First* division: Arsenal v Watford; Chelsea v Cambridge Utd; Fulham v Southend; Gillingham v Ipswich; Millwall v Leyton Orient; Portsmouth v QPR, Tottenham v Norwich; West Ham v Charlton. Second division: Brighton v Bristol City; Crystal Palace v Bournemouth; Luton v Brentford; Oxford Utd v Bristol Rovers; Reading v Wimbledon; Southampton v Colchester. Wycombe v Tottenham.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: First round, second replay: Galway v Waterford (7.0).

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-final: Ards v Glenavon, Carrick v Bangor; Linfield v Loughgall Utd. Portadown v Cliftonville.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: *Arthur Dunn Cup:* Chigwellians v Witterians; Reptonians v Foresters. Premier division: Lancing v Aldenhamians, Malvernians v Brentwoods. First division: Bradfieldians v Haileyburians; Salopians v Cholmelians; Wykehamists v Ardinians.

OLD BOYS' LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardinal Manning v Ignatians; Glyn v *Clapham; Hamptonians v Aloysians;* Meadonians v Wilsonians; Tenisonians v Danes. Senior first division: Kingsburians v Edmontonians; Tiffinians v Salvatorians; Wokingians v Suttonians; Shene v Latymer.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: West Wickham v Crouch End Vampires. Winchmore Hill v Norsemen; Old Actonians v East Barnet OG; Old Latymerians v Old Esthameians. Second division: Broomfield v Polytechnic, Kew Association v Old Bromleians, Lensbury v Old Stationers, Old Parkonians v Alexandra Park, Carshalton v Old Parmiterians. Third division: Barclays Bank v Ibis. Merton v Cuaco; Brentham v Old Lyonian; Bank of *England v Old Salesians; Alleyn v Reigate* Priory.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Old Grammarians v St Mary's College; Parkfield v Wandsworth Borough; Southgate County v Ulysses; Witan v Nottsborough. Senior two: Duncombe Sports v Corinthian-Casuals; Ealing Association v Hadley; Honourable Artillery v Old Bealonians; Old Fairtopians v Hale End Athletic, UCL Academicals v Albanian.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Under-15 international: England v Brazil (Wembley, 3.0). ESFA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Final: Avon v Oxfordshire (Bath University, 10.30). London Crisp Shield: Semi-final: Barking v Tower Hamlets (Dagenham Arena, 9.30). Middlesex Star Shield: Harrow v Brent (Whitchurch, 10.30). Brook Trophy: West London v Hackney (Bem Elms, 10.30). Leicester Finch Trophy: Bexley v Sutton (Sidcup, 10.30). Oxford Times Trophy: Mid-Oxon v Vale of White Horse (Fritwell FC, 10.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Quarter-final
Widnes v Wigan (2.15)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Dudley Hill v Hemel Hempstead (2.30); Leigh M W v Chorley (2.30); 183 Mayfield v Askam (2.30).

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Clayton v Featherstone MW, Farnworth ROB v Heworth; Greetland AR v West Hull; Halton Simms Cross v Birkenshaw; Heysham Atoms v West Bank; Oulton v Westgate Redoubt; Queensbury v Hensingham; Saddleworth v Lowca; Wigan St Judes v Lock Lane; Wigan St Pats v Crosfields

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

CIS county championship
Semi-finals
Northumberland v Gloucestershire
(at Tynedale, 3.0)
Warwickshire v Berkshire
(at Rugby, 3.0)

CIS under-21 county championship
Semi-final
Middlesex v Yorkshire
(Old Merchant Taylors', 2.15)

Courage clubs championship
Third division
Bedford v Rosslyn Park (3.0)
Fourth division
Rotherham v Plymouth Albion (3.0)
Fifth division north
Barkers Butts v Sheffield (3.0)
Stourbridge v Nuneaton
Walsall v Birmingham Solihull (3.0)
Wharfedale v Lichfield (3.0)
Fifth division south
Henley v Weston-super-Mare (3.0)

Heineken League
First division
Abertillery v Cardiff
Bridgend v Swansea
Dunvant v Pontypool
Newbridge v Treorchy
Newport v Llanelli
Pontypridd v Neath
Second division
Aberavon v Cross Keys
Ebbw Vale v Bonymaen
Llandovery v Abercynon
Penarth v Llanharan
South Wales Police v Narberth
Tenby Utd v Maesteg

Third division: Aberavon Quins v Builth Wells; Glamorgan Wdrs v Ystradgynlais; Kenfig Hill v Pontypool United; Mountain Ash v Blaina; Tondu v Caerphilly; Tredegar v Blackwood

McEwan's League
First division
Boroughmuir v Hawick (3.0)
Gala v Currie (3.0)
Jed-Forest v Dundee HSFP (3.0)
Stewarts Mel FP v Glasgow HK (3.0)
West of Scotland v Edinburgh Acads P
Second division
Corstorphine v Grangemouth (3.0)
Haddington v Glasgow Acads (3.0)
Kelso v Edinburgh Wndrs (3.0)
Kirkcaldy v Preston Lodge (3.0)
Musselburgh v Gordonians (3.0)
Peebles v Biggar (3.0)
Wigtownshire v Selkirk (3.0)

Insurance Corporation League
First division
Dungannon v Lansdowne
Instonians v Blackrock College
Old Wesley v Young Munster
St Mary's College v Garryowen
Second division
Dolphin v Wanderers
Malone v Bective Rangers
Old Crescent v Old Belvedere
Terenure Coll v Greystones
Univ College, Dublin v Bangor

Tour match
Gloucester v Northern Transvaal (3.0)

Club matches
Aspatria v Kendal (3.0)
Barking v Streatham and Croydon (3.0)
Basingstoke v Westcombe Park (3.0)
Blackheath v London Scottish (3.0)
Coventry v Sale (3.0)
Exeter v Plymouth (3.0)
Fylde v Rugby (3.0)
Havant v Metropolitan Police (3.0)
Hereford v Cinderford (3.0)
Hull Ionians v Otley (3.0)
Leeds v Hartlepool Rovers (3.0)
Leicester v Moseley (3.0)
London Irish v Harlequins (3.0)
Lydney v Newbury (3.0)
Nottingham v Wasps (3.0)
Orrell v Morley (3.0)
Preston G v Kirkby Lonsdale (3.0)
Redruth v St Ives (3.0)
Richmond v Northampton (3.0)
Saracens v London Welsh (3.0)
West Hartlepool v Newcastle G (3.0)

Representative match
West Wales Schools v Japan Schools
(at Tongwynlais 3.0)

DAILY MAIL SCHOOLS UNDER-18 CUP: Semi-finals (at Castlecroft Stadium, Wolverhampton). Campion v QEGS, Wakefield (11.0), Bradford GS v Colston's (1.30).

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: East Grinstead v Firebrands (Saint Hill 2.0); Stourport v Cannock (King Charles School, Kidderminster 3.0).

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier *League: Chichester v Old Walcountians;* Gore Court v Fareham; High Wycombe v Lyons, Old Kingstonians v Oxford Hawks, Old Whitgiftians v City Of Portsmouth. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Epsom v Southampton Tauntonians; Fleet v Oxted. Merton v Hamble OB. Kent/Sussex: Belvedere v Mid Sussex; Crawley v Greenwich; Marden Russets v Old Bordenians. Middlesex/Berks, Bucks and Oxon: Eastcote v Marlow; HCC v Wokingham; Mill Hill v Sunbury; Newbury v Ramgarhia.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Harborne v Olton and West Warwickshire; Lichfield v North Notts.

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: Premier division: Bath Buccaneers v West Wilts; Hereford v Cheltenham; Plymouth v West Glos; Swansea v Taunton Vale; Weston-super-Mare v Exeter University.

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Southport; Blackburn v Formby; Harrogate v Hightown-Northern; Norton v Stockton; Timperley v Warrington.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bishop's Stortford v Colchester; Bluoharts v Luton; Cambridge Univ v Redbridge and Ilford; Chelmsford v Dereham; Peterborough v Ipswich. Premier division B: Bedford v Bury St Edmunds; Ipswich and E Suffolk v Westcliff; Norwich City v Romford; Old Southendians v Stevenage; Pelicans v Sudbury.

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North (Stanley Park). Lancashire v Cumbria; LCL v Northumberland; Durham v Cheshire. Hull: Humberside v Sheffield League; Manchester League v Yorkshire.

WEST LEAGUE: Cheltenham v Clifton II; East Glos v Yate; Exeter v Gloucester; Lansdown v Colwall; Plymouth v Wimborne W, St Austell v Weston, Redland v *Bournemouth.*

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford v Cambridge (Wilberforce Road, Cambridge, 2.30).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff v Durham (6.30); Nottingham v *Bracknell (6.30); Peterborough v Sheffield* (6.30); Whitley Bay v Basingstoke (5.30). First division: Lee Valley v Blackburn (5.30); Medway v Guildford (6.0); Swindon v Chelmsford (5.15); Telford v Trafford (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: English cross-country championships (Luton).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham v Thames Valley (8.0); Leicester v Leopards (7.30); London v Chester (8.0); Manchester v Doncaster (7.30); Sunderland v Hemel (7.30); Worthing v Derby (8.0).

BOWLS: English women's national championships (Northampton).

ICE SKATING: World championships (NEC, Birmingham).

LACROSSE: North of England League: First division: Ashton v Boardman and Eccles A; Mellor v Old Waconians; Sheffield Steelers v Poynton; Timperley v Stockport; Cheadle v Heaton Mersey.

TENNIS: *Vauxhall Indoor Trophy:* Men: Semi-finals: Royal Berkshire v Centrecourt Basingstoke; David Lloyd Renfrew v Clearview Brentwood. Women: Semi-finals: Queen's Club v Northumberland; LT&SRC and Clearview Brentwood v Edgbaston Priory (Nottingham Tennis Centre)

VOLLEYBALL: *Men's Internationals:* Lithuania v Latvia; England v Scotland (Iffley Road Sports Centre, 6.30). Women's National League: First division: London Malory v Britannia Music City (12.30).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
**denotes all-ticket match*

FA Cup
Sixth round
* Everton v Newcastle
* Man Utd v QPR (1.0)

Tennents Scottish Cup
Fifth round
Hearts v Dundee United

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Calne v Barnstaple.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round: Shamrock v Cork (3.15). Quarter-finals: Avondale v Shelbourne

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League: Arsenal v Millwall Lionesses, Doncaster Belles v Liverpool FC Ladies, Ilkeston v Croydon, Leasowe Pacific v Wembley; Wolverhampton v Red Star Southampton Northern division: Kidderminster v Bronte, Langford v Cowgate Kestrels, Nottingham Argyle v Solihull, Sheffield Wednesday v Ipswich; Villa Aztecs v St Helens Garswood Southern division: Horsham v Brentford; Town and Country v Berkhamstead and Hemel, Wimbledon v Oxford United; Brighton and Hove v Maidstone Tigresses.

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
Wales Under-19 v France Juniors
(Cardiff Arms Park, 3.0)

CIS Under-21 county championship
Semi-final
Buckinghamshire v Warwickshire
(at Aylesbury, 2.15)

Insurance Corporation League
First division
Sunday's Well v Cork Constitution (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Quarter-finals
Leeds v Workington
Oldham v Huddersfield
Whitehaven v Featherstone

Stones Bitter Championship
First division
Halifax v Doncaster
Hull v St Helens (3.15)
Salford v Castleford
Warrington v Sheffield
Second division
Barrow v Swinton (2.30)
Hull K R v Leigh (3.15)
Hunslet v Batley (3.30)
Keighley v Highfield (3.15)
Rochdale v Bramley
Ryedale York v Carlisle (3.15)

HOCKEY

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Quarter-finals: Formby v Richmond (Formby Cricket Club 1.45); Guildford v Barford Tigers (Kings Manor School 12.0); Isca v Cannock (Exeter School 2.0); Southgate v Teddington (Broomfield School 2.0)

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Firebrands (Polo Farm 1.0); East Grinstead v Havant (Saint Hill 2.0); Old Loughtonians v Surbiton (Chigwell 1.30). Stourport v Hounslow (Kidderminster School 2.30). Trojans v Reading (Stoneham Lane 1.30). Second division: Edgbaston v Brooklands (Birmingham University 12.30). Gloucester City v Beeston (Plock Court 1.30); Harleston Magpies v Crostyx (Shotford Heath 2.0); Oxford University v Cambridge City (St Edward's School 2.0), St Albans v Sheffield (Clarence Park 2.0), Whitchurch v Bromley (Llys Tal y Bont, Cardiff 1.30).

WOMEN'S CLUB MATCHES: Hereford v St Fagans, Penarth v Clifton, Wakefield v York.

EAST WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Old Loughtonians v Harleston M; *Redbridge v Cambridge* City, Saracens v Bexleyheath: Sevenoaks v Welwyn Garden City

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands (at Bedford): Northamptonshire v Warwickshire, Leicestershire v Shropshire; Worcestershire v Derbyshire; Warwickshire v Staffordshire, Derbyshire v Shropshire; *Leicestershire v Northamptonshire. North* (at Stanley Park). Cheshire v Cumbria; Lancashire v Northumberland; Durham v LCL; Northumberland v Cheshire; Lancs v Durham, Cumbria v LCL (at Hull): Manchester League v Sheffield League, Humberside v Yorkshire. Humberside v Manchester League. Sheffield League v Yorks.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff v Sheffield (6.30); Durham v Basingstoke (6.30). Humberside v Bracknell (5.45); Milton Keynes v Nottingham (5.15); Whitley v Peterborough (6.30). First division: Blackburn v Medway (6.0); Chelmsford v Telford (6.30); Guildford v Lee Valley (6.0); Solihull v Slough (7.0); Trafford v Swindon (5.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v *Sunderland (6.0)*; Doncaster v Thames Valley (5.30); Leopards v Birmingham (5.0); Sheffield v Worthing (6.15).

ICE SKATING: World championships (NEC, Birmingham).

TENNIS: Vauxhall indoor trophy: Men's final (Nottingham Tennis Centre).

VOLLEYBALL: Men's Internationals: Lithuania v Scotland, England v Latvia (Iffley Road Sports Centre, Oxford, from 2.30). Women's National League: First division: Sale v KLEA Leeds (2.0). Ashcombe Guildford Spectrum v Wessex (2.30)

Saturday portrait: Surya Bonaly, by Simon Barnes

Ice maiden searching for artistic touch to melt judges' hearts

Tennis parent, ballet parent, skating parent: what makes them? The curious case of *Surya Bonaly proves one thing: it* is not a question of genetics. The mother is Suzanne Bonaly, lapsed hippy and described by a coach as "crazy". The adopted daughter and skater is Surya, named, we are told, for a Hindu sun goddess.

The name is extravagant but, if anything, it understates the case. She possesses the most glorious skin tone, sleek, black, glossy and fabulously muscled. She goes in for costumes that emphasise the most startlingly athletic physique *in skating. Yesterday she* wore a vibrant tangerine as she skated her short programme at the world championships in Birmingham. The free programme takes place this afternoon but, from fourth place, she will have to go some if *she is even to make the podium.*

Her performances have always been noted for startling athleticism. In exhibitions, she has a special trick to blow the minds of skating purists everywhere. She performs a back somersault, a *common trick among male skaters*, but Bonaly is the only woman to do it. It is illegal in competition, but almost *de rigueur* for men in post-championship galas.

But Bonaly lands her somersault on one leg, and then bounces *directly into a triple axel, as if this* were not ice but a trampoline. She *used to be a trampolinist* and she was also the world under-12 tumbling champion. No man has performed such a trick.

If she were a man, she would probably be world and Olympic champion several times over, *perhaps even if she were competing* against men. In men's competition, jumps carry greater weight than "artistic" content.

But at the highest level, Bonaly is a perpetual narrow loser. She was fourth in the last Olympic Games: gold went to Oksana Bayul, a waif who fluttered her *arms to Swan Lake*. That went to the judges' hearts and all the Bonaly triples were not enough.

At the world championships in Japan last year, Bonaly was convinced that she had won. But gold went instead to Yuka Sato, a Japanese. Bonaly was *in torrents* in the dressing-rooms: her mother *said to her that she did not have to* go out to the medal ceremony if she did not want to.

Perhaps this was a masterpiece of psychology. Then again, perhaps not. Bonaly went out, her face like a child's, constantly puckering and unpuckering. No sooner was the silver medal placed around her neck than she removed it, as if it burnt. Displays of temperament are not unknown in ice skating, *but this was extraordinary. It* continued a pattern long established: that the Bonalys, *mère* and *fille*, are a pair for whom the normal conventions of ice skating do not apply.

As a small example, Bonaly and her mother never eat with the rest of the French team. They eat together, in their room — room, *singular, please note. Surya does* not get a room of her own. There *they consume the vegetarian*, macrobiotic food they have brought with them.

> ## 'She was brought up on Zen, birdseed and tumbling. She did not have her hair cut until she was 18'

If Surya's physique is enough to dispel any doubts about the potency of a vegetarian diet, the practice emphasises the essential truth that *they are a pair apart. Surya was* adopted by the Bonalys — the father, Georges, inevitably has a lower profile than the women in his life — when she was ten months old.

The story has always been that she was born on the island of Réunion, in the Indian Ocean, but a more prosaic story of birth in Nice has recently emerged. Surya is now 21. Her adoption 20 years ago by white parents, anxious to make the world a better place, was in keeping with those heady times.

So the black child was brought *up by white hippies. Suzanne was* a gym teacher as well as a hippy. Surya was brought up on Zen, birdseed and tumbling. She did not have her hair cut at all until she was 18. Naturally, with a gym teacher mother and bags of talent, she tried every sport going, including skating. She was spotted by the French coach, Didier Gailhaguet, he who was to call Suzanne "crazy". As tennis coaches look not for accuracy in children, but power, timing and appetite, so *Gailhaguet looked for speed.*

And quickness of learning. "Within one month she was doing double rotation jumps," he said. "That is an incredible feat." She was 11, and destiny, or its Zen equivalent, was beckoning.

Mother and daughter went to Paris to learn from Gailhaguet. They lived in a truck in a car park: eccentric enough, but they did so with three dogs as well. And sure enough, Bonaly shot to the top. But not the very top. She remains constantly a whisker away from recognition as the world No 1. If *rows were medals*, she would have won them all, or her mother would have won them for her. As a battler with judges, Suzanne is gold-medal quality all the way.

Surya has five times been champion of Europe; only Sonja Henie and Katarina Witt have more European titles, with six apiece. And the French love her, for her attack, for her love of the outrageous, for the romantic story of her adoption, her picaresque journey via the car park to glory, and for the fact that, in the final analysis, she is hard done by.

The crowds roar, particularly if they are French, but from the judges desks the Zen girl hears the sound of one hand clapping. She is, the prevailing belief goes, only half a skater. She has tricks, but no art. "She is," Christopher Dean said damningly, "an acrobat on skates." Carlo Fassi, who trained the British skaters, Robin Cousins and John Curry, said: "She goes into jumps stiffly, with her hands at her sides — telegraphing. It's stupid. But you cannot tell the mother that. She will not listen."

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN

The mother is now also the coach. Her skating experience is based entirely on watching Surya. The Bonalys parted company with Gailhaguet after a row about him spending time with other skaters. It was also a row about the need to lift Surya's marks for artistic impression. Skating judges now have an *idée fixe*: Surya's skating is not "artistic" at all. It will take a lot of shifting.

She has, however, taken on a Russian, Natasha Dabadie, as choreographer, and the Bonaly camp already believes that this has made the crucial difference. There is a problem, though, in all the subjective sports. Judges tend to mark what they expect, rather than what they see.

Surya suffers from prejudice in favour of fluttering arms and wilting femininty. She also suffers from prejudice, some believe, against her colour, along the now-traditional "great natural athlete" lines. "Art", perhaps, requires a paler skin.

Aggression, unapologetic athleticism, and panache are not traditional feminine qualities, yet to say that they cannot be part of art is *manifest nonsense. The real point* is the extent to which the Bonalys have proved indigestible to the world of skating.

Everything about them is a contradiction of tradition: colour, quadruple jumps, background, beliefs, even diet. And also the fact that Surya skates as if choreographed by Ernest Hemingway rather than Patience Strong.

She is 21, with a flair and physique to knock your eyes out, and *she* is still a little girl. Today, as ever, she will do as her *mother tells her*: "Reject all bad thoughts. Be as beautiful as a queen on the ice. *Skate with all* your heart."

Eyles back in peak form after check-up

From Colin McQuillan in Lisbon

THOSE who started discounting Rodney Eyles from their calculations for the British Open squash championship later this month, after his sudden collapse and spell in hospital last week, were made *to revise their opinions* by the way the Australian dismissed Simon Parke, of England, from the Portuguese Open at the quarter-final stage.

Eyles, 27, who was given the all-clear by Kingston Hospital after extensive checks on his heart, played with increasing ferocity against Parke, who decided to retire after 29 minutes on Thursday, complaining of a foot injury, with the score at 11-15, 9-15, 0-6 against him.

A sterner test awaited Eyles in last night's semi-finals in which his opponent was Peter Marshall, the British champion, who started slowly in his quarter-final against Sami Elopuro but eventually battered the Finn into submission 15-12, 15-10, 15-6.

The young Scottish champion, Peter Nicol, was due to meet Jansher Khan, the world champion, in the other semi-final. "That's how we like to approach Jansher, one after another," Nicol said. "It would be better if Marshall had him first, though, and unfortunately the draw falls the same way in the British Open."

The two young British rivals learned yesterday that, for the first time in 65 years, the men's British Open in Cardiff, from March 17 to 26, will be played under the American point-per-rally scoring system, with the lower 17-inch tin on the front wall.

"So they finally saw sense," said Marshall of the action of the England Squash Rackets Association, which had stood out resolutely against changing the game's premier event from the traditional nine-point hand-in and hand-out format which has been employed since 1922.

"The men's world tour is televised by Sky on the point-per-rally scoring and there was no chance of including the British Open while they stuck *to nine points*," Marshall said.

'You have to be immersed in the game body and soul'

Betts still setting strong pace

Christopher Irvine on the Wigan forward who has committed himself to a punishing schedule

JUST as Denis Betts cannot do without rugby league, rugby league needs Betts; so much so *that for just over three years* the Great Britain second-row forward will play non-stop. When the season ends at Wigan, a new one starts for him at Auckland Warriors, and so on. His spirit is willing, *but is the flesh able?*

Rugby league is chess with muscles, a game of such physical punishment that Betts, 25, looks at forwards a few years older and says: "You'd swear they were 40 or 50". In eight seasons at Wigan, Betts has attained something *like veteran status in nearly* 300 games, a career to many players, and yet the thirst is not quenched.

Surely 16 stones of state-of-the-art forward has to recharge the batteries some time? As a leading critic of the number of games players have to play in England, there seems to be a suggestion of hypocrisy about the back-to-back rugby that Betts is about to embark upon, until you hear the words of a consummate professional who is seeking to challenge himself further.

"I'm on the record as wanting a reduced first division," he said. "We do play too much here. Playing week in and out on boggy pitches saps your strength, in comparison to the harder pitches Down Under, where they also play far fewer games.

"If myself and both clubs *didn't feel I was up to it*, I wouldn't bother. My motivation the first year is an England World Cup place. The second year is an option. The work ethic has been ingrained in me at Wigan and as long as I'm 100 per cent physically, I should be OK," he said.

Granted, Betts is an exceptional player, *but it is here that* opinion diverges. Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League chief executive, who brought Betts into the professional game while he was chairman of Wigan, said it was a case of someone mistakenly trying to satisfy two masters, possibly with damaging consequences.

"Denis is the epitome of the modern forward," Lindsay said, "but no player is *immune* to the staleness and sheer mental drain involved in playing without a break. Ellery Hanley, Garry Schofield and Lee Crooks played back-to-back seasons a few years ago *and suffered for it. I worry for* Denis."

Dr Ansar Zaman, the Wigan and Britain team doctor, can think of perhaps only 15 players up to the demands, and even they require the medical back-up and the likes of a nutritionist, biochemist, *physiotherapists and fitness* trainers who have almost turned Central Park into a village hospital.

"Denis is what you might call a Mercedes-Benz," Zaman said. "Look after him properly *and he should run and run.* By following the proper medical rules and regulations, back-to-back rugby is possible in someone as physically and mentally conditioned as Denis."

This presumes, of course, that Betts remains free of injury. He missed some of last season, but that was an exception. "I admit that when I came back from the 1992 Australasia tour and went *straight into the season here*. I was jaded at first, but that was due to other problems then," he said. "You can't play this game unless you are immersed in it heart and sole."

Without curbing the speed *of his wide running, Betts toils* hard to hone his physique. The Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-final at Widnes today is the culmination of an intensive week of weight training, running and skill drills that is routine.

There is no finer sight than Betts at full throttle. *It is now a* question of whether he can keep his foot hard on the accelerator until 1997.

SIMON WILKINSON

Betts's speed and strength will be tested by Widnes in the Challenge Cup quarter-final this afternoon

Whitehaven bank on extending run

By Christopher Irvine

KURT SORENSEN *has* come out of retirement several times since his former club, Widnes, lost to Wigan in 1993 at Wembley — a venue he might yet revisit with Whitehaven. The coach of the second-division side is a candidate for the bench tomorrow, however, when Featherstone Rovers are the Challenge Cup quarter-final opponents.

Today, Sorensen, 38, will be back at Widnes to urge them on against Wigan. "They could certainly do us all a favour," he said. "Whitehaven have only made the semis once [1957], but with us on a winning streak of 11 matches, it does encourage us."

Having upset Featherstone in the Regal Trophy, Whitehaven seem Cumbria's best hope. Workington Town are at Leeds, who are unbeaten at home this season. Oldham have never reached Wembley, but their home tie with Huddersfield, the only other lower division survivor, seems straightforward.

Wigan have enjoyed 39 undefeated ties since 1988 — *overcoming Widnes twice — but, with the exception of* Andy Farrell, Wigan are up to strength, and had the fillip yesterday of Barrie-Jon Mather coming off the transfer list.

If a takeover bid for Bradford Northern by a six-man consortium is successful, the first division club will leave Odsal and ground-share at Valley Parade with Bradford City Football Club. The rugby league club has losses and outstanding loans of £740,000. Richard Hayter, a *consortium member, said*: "We have a number of ideasand will make significant sums of cash available."

Accessories to the crime head for dressing-down

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

One of the great problems of playing in a team sport is that you *have to wear the same clothes* as everybody else. What is a person of spirit to do? George Best untucked his shirt and grew a beard, Eric Cantona turned his collar up, Douglas Jardine wore a Harlequins cap, Shane Warne painstakingly applies zinc cream to *achieve the passed-out-in-the-ice-cream look*. The problems are greater for the players of American football, who must hide their faces beneath helmets.

Ah, but they can stand out *in sideline shots*. The fad is to wear a buccaneering bandanna beneath the *helmet*, displayed to the world as they oh-so-casually uncover. It looks cool: ask "Neon" Deion Sanders, the latest superstar. *But now there is talk of the* sport's governing body, the National Football League (NFL), banning bandannas, which it says are a symbol of street warfare and gang violence. Gene Washington, the *NFL's development officer*, wants to establish a rigid dress code. The bandanna, he says, is a call to violence. "It is not educative for young fans."

Trade gap

More news from the front line of action: that is to say, the baseball strike. The Major League clubs are gathering strike-breaking players to play "scabball" for the spring training exhibition games, a *crucial part of the nation's* annual ritual of self-renewal. Has-beens are cheap enough, never-wozzers are cheapest of all: men abandoning jobs washing cars to chase the American sporting dream. So highly are these people rated that Cleveland Indians have just traded five of them to Cincinnati Reds. How *many did they get back?* None.

Captain's log

"Coaching has never appealed to me," Keith Fletcher wrote in *Captain's Innings* in 1983. "I am afraid I have very little patience with children . . . and supervising a class of 25 kids of whom only three want to play cricket is not my idea of a fulfilling day." So *that's what* went wrong.

Forbidden tears

Notice for the competitors in the world figure skating championships, which reach their climax today in Birmingham. "Please move *directly to the kiss and cry* area immediately following your performance. Do not collect flowers. Flowers will be picked up by little girls and given to you in the kiss and cry area." It is skating's equivalent of the famous "This is Anfield" sign. Incidentally, *the area in question* — where skaters sit and wait for their marks — is called in French: *Le kiss and cry*.

IPSWICH FC.
CHANGING ROOM
Is this the kiss-and-cry area?
GED

☐ ***"And the sun was shining when he held me and I felt a deep flowering of pleasure. All at once, like a sunflower. Opening up." What has this to do with sport? I have no idea: I found it on a box inside my press kit for the above championships.***

Thirsty work

The advertising opportunity of the week was seized by Steinlager, New Zealand's highly palatable brew. They fired out a full-page advertisement announcing: "There's one thing that goes down faster than an Australian yacht — Steinlager". This, for anyone who is not totally obsessed by the America's Cup, refers to the Australian boat that went down like a stone in the middle of a race. Australia reacted with all the wry self-mocking humour of which its people are capable. "It's just not funny," Alan Campbell, a senator and former Olympic yachtsman, said. "It's like a death in the family." Steinlager sponsors *Team New Zealand*, which leads *the America's Cup* challenger group. Foster's, the Australian beer, carried its logo *on* the fast-disappearing hull of *oneAustralia*. So Foster's hit back with a rather lame effort of their own. "We'll just have *another Foster's* and get on with winning," its ad announced. *Hmmm. Somehow*, it lacks the punch of the Kiwi effort.

Sorry ending

My apologies. I have reached the last *story of this week's* column, and I still have not mentioned Diego. Let me remedy that at once. Well, this column's manager of the year is having more problems with his football team, Racing *Club of Avellaneda*. They have just been beaten 1-0 by Ferrocarria Oeste. The television cameras focused on his repeated bouts of rage with his players, his incessant protests to the referee which were, I learn from my source, "garnished with gestures of little elegance".

His attitude has come in for a barrage of criticism from the Buenos Aires newspapers: he is *putting* too much pressure on the players, they say. He is stressing them out. Meanwhile, Diego repeats his desire to play again as soon as his ban for drugs is complete.

Briton plans to leave Bowe with no place to hide

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN LAS VEGAS

AFTER the recent success of Nigel Benn against Gerald McClellan, in London, Herbie Hide, another British underdog, feels that he, too, can cause an upset when he defends his World Boxing Organisation heavyweight title against Riddick Bowe here tonight.

Thanks to close support from his training team and promoter, Barry Hearn, Hide will be going into the daunting MGM Grand ring convinced that he has the beating of the former undisputed world champion.

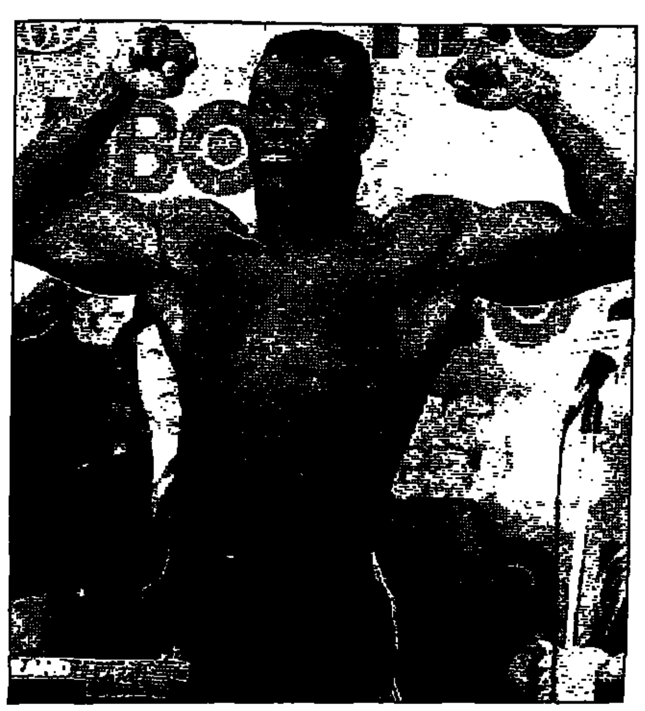
Hide had been told by his training team that even though Bowe is regarded by many as the best in the world, he is little more than a big, overweight bully who can be sorted out by standing up to him and giving him a bloody nose. Having watched the tape of Bowe's Olympic encounter with Lennox Lewis, Freddie King, Hide's trainer, has convinced his charge that, like all bullies, Bowe is really a coward.

"A leopard never changes it spots," King said. "He swallowed, no question about it. He turned away from Lewis. So after seven or eight rounds Herbie is going to open him up and tear him apart as he did with Michael Bentt."

Whether this misinformation about Bowe is part of a deliberate plan to give Hide confidence or the result of misinterpreting Bowe's contest is not clear, but it has certainly succeeded in convincing Hide that all he has to do is buzz round Bowe and pick him off.

It has to be seen whether the veneer of confidence remains when Hide is alone with the big man under the bright lights of the ring. Bowe weighed in at 17st 13lb, the same as he weighed against Larry Donald in December and five pounds lighter than when he met Evander Holyfield for the second time. Hide weighed in at 15st 4lb.

As Bowe said: "Hide's not been tested. I really don't think he knows what to expect. This is his Super Bowl. He is the one who will be tense."



Hide flexes his muscles during the official weigh-in

Eddie Futch, Bowe's famous trainer, doubts that Hide, has the power to knock out Bowe with one punch, as he did with Bentt. Futch said: "I happen to know the circumstances behind the Bentt fight because he used to train in our gym. He was having black-outs in the gym. I was surprised Bentt went so many rounds with Hide."

But Futch does not take Hide lightly. He believes the Norwich man is the best opponent of all the heavyweight contenders today. He said: "I don't go for this 'if you don't know the fella he can't fight'. I had a man like that against Muhammad Ali — Ken Norton. He came out with the biggest upset of the decade.

"This chap [Hide] has a decent record. He is not a one-big-punch knock-out artist but he lands enough to get the job done. I've told Riddick this is the most important fight of his career and in some ways the most difficult. When the fight was first made I told Riddick 'you're in for a tough fight'. Now he believes it."

But it has to be said that Hide faces an enormous task. Even though Bowe's opponents, apart from Holyfield, have not been much better than Hide's, the Englishman is not in the same class and faces some serious tactical problems in the ring.

Futch pointed out: "To stop Riddick, Hide will have to deliver a lot of blows because Riddick takes a good punch and for those to be knock-out blows, he will have to come in and plant his feet. That is when he will be in greatest danger of being knocked out. If Hide runs he can't pick up points. So what does he do?"

I believe the difficulties will be too great for Hide to overcome and if he tries to do so, he will be knocked out. If, however, he can catch Bowe regularly on the chin and thereby outpoint or stop him, he will have to be recognised as one of the best heavyweights in the world.

Oxford master annual boxing match

RICHARD BRAMLEY, a veterinary medicine student at Cambridge University, lands a powerful right to the head of his opponent, James Hurrion, shortly before Hurrion was knocked out during the heavyweight final of the University boxing match on Thursday evening. The Oxford University boxer, a second-year engineering student at Queen's College, lay unconscious for three minutes — despite having worn a headguard — and was attended in the ring by a doctor, reviving memories of the injuries suffered by Gerald McClellan, of the United States, in his professional contest with Britain's Nigel Benn 12 days earlier.

Hurrion, who scored well with his jab before being caught by powerful hooks, was cleared by the medical official, however, and later attended the after-match dinner at he Guildhall in Cambride. Bramley, 23, a newcomer to amateur boxing, is also captain of the England Students rugby team.

Oxford dominated the 84th match overall, though, winning six out of nine bouts. The Dark Blues have now won ten matches in a row, bringing the score to Cambridge 46, Oxford 38. Oxford took the first four contests before Cambridge succeeded in gaining a victory when Mason Cranswick, team captain, of Magdalene College, beat Seim Munif on points. The contest which sealed the match saw Nick Lois, of Cambridge, stopped when he suffered damage to his nose.

Procter in running to replace Neale at Northants

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PHIL NEALE yesterday agreed to move from Northamptonshire to Edgbaston, where he will become director of coaching in succession to Bob Woolmer, who is now coach to the South African Test side. It will be no great surprise if Neale's successor at Northampton is Mike Procter, dismissed by South Africa to make room for Woolmer.

Steve Coverdale, Northamptonshire's chief executive, said the decision to release Neale, 40, with 18 months of his contract to run was taken "with reluctance". He refused to comment on details of a possible compensation package. "We have chatted to Warwickshire and come to an amicable settlement," he said.

The Warwickshire chairman, Mike Smith, said the county champions were "delighted" with the appointment and confirmed that Neale would be available to continue as manager of the England A team. Neale will go on the county's pre-season tour to South Africa, where he will liaise with Woolmer, who will return to Birmingham in April to help Neale settle in.

"The hand-over time with Bob will be useful. I can have a look at the things he has done and I am sure there are things I can introduce," Neale said. "There's a feeling round the game that this is a difficult job following on from last season. All I can say is that Warwickshire had a tremendous year [they won three of the four main competitions] and I hope to continue it.

"The parting from Northamptonshire has been amicable and I will always be grateful to them for giving me a chance to get into cricket management."

Procter, who spent two summers in charge at Northampton before returning to South Africa in 1992, is understood to be among the candidates hoping to succeed the former Worcestershire captain.

Coverdale said the club had been overwhelmed by applications. "Since the news came out, I've received calls from two former international captains, five former England players and two or three other former county skippers," he said. "There is bound to be a lot of speculation, but we haven't made any decision yet. We would like Allan Lamb, the captain, and our coach, Bob Carter, to have their say.

"It's possible we may get someone in from outside or make use of our existing staff, but either way we hope to have sorted it all out before the team leaves for their pre-season tour to Zimbabwe at the end of the month."

David Fulton, the Kent opening batsman, is hoping to be fit for the start of the season despite breaking his leg playing football. Fulton, 23, who forced his way into the Kent side last year, suffered a cracked fibula while playing for the University of Kent. "I hope to get the go-ahead to start light work," he said.

Hendry goes through after tense finish

STEPHEN HENDRY, the world snooker champion, admitted to feeling relieved after beating Mark Williams 5-4 in an exciting first-round match in the Thailand Open in Bangkok yesterday (Phil Yates writes).

When Hendry required only 44 minutes to establish a 4-0 lead, he appeared on course for a routine win. However, Williams, 19, a left-hander from Ebbw Vale, who lost only 9-8 to Hendry at the same stage of the 1992 United Kingdom championship, staged a spirited fightback.

Leading 64-0 in the sixth frame, Hendry, winner of the event in 1989 and 1990, was within two pots of a 5-1 victory when he overcut a red. Williams gamely fashioned a 70 clearance to save the match, and two frames later a 61 break enabled him to level at 4-4.

Williams, the world No 58, also led 33-0 in the ninth frame before a combination of his inexperience and some questionable shot selection helped Hendry gain a foothold.

"When Mark made it 4-4, I honestly thought I would lose," Hendry, who eventually secured the frame on the green, said. "In the second half of the match, he had all the momentum, and I wasn't sharp. I put myself under far too much pressure."

Hendry now meets Ronnie O'Sullivan or Doug Mountjoy for a place in the quarter-finals.

RESULTS: Wildcard play-offs: S Srinngam (Thai) wo R Garrett (Eng); W Brown (Eng) bt O Chin Kay (Mal) 5-4, P Polboon (Thai) bt A Davies (Wales) 5-2; J Wallace (Eng) bt A Wongchan (Thai) 5-2. First round: S Hendry (Scot) bt M Williams (Wales) 5-4, A McManus (Scot) bt M Price (Eng) 5-3

Bertrand still confident

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

JOHN BERTRAND and his Australian America's Cup crew are still confident that they can make the finals of the Louis Vuitton Cup Challenge trials despite the sinking of their new boat, oneAustralia, earlier this week.

The team has arranged to take on Syd Fischer's defeated Sydney 95 for trials next week and, with the Aus$3 million (£1.6 million) paid out by their insurance company within 48 hours of the sinking, the oneAustralia crew expect to have new sails and a new carbon-fibre rig fitted in time for the semi-finals, which start on March 18.

This weekend, the original oneAustralia will have the keel and rudder originally destined for the new boat fitted and will commence trials against Sydney 95 on Monday, before taking on Kevin Mahaney's leading defence challenger, Young America, later in the week.

The Americans in the defender series are as keen as the challengers to see where they stand against each other. Although racing on separate courses off Point Loma, race times so far suggest that Russell Coutts and his Team New Zealand, which remains unbeaten on the water, is faster than any of the defender yachts.

Chris Law, who steered Sydney 95 during the opening round-robin series before being sacked by Fischer, had been asked by Bertrand to skipper the boat against oneAustralia, but Fischer vetoed this yesterday. He is still in dispute with the British skipper over wages.

The crew of Team New Zealand are also upbeat about their prospects. "We are only at about 60 per cent of our best at the moment, and the testing we have done this week after racing has helped us to raise our game considerably for the semi-finals," one crewman said last night.

☐ The search for Harry Mitchell, 70, the British BOC Challenge solo sailor who has been lost off Cape Horn for more than a week, was still being hampered last night by continuing bad weather. Poor visibility and high seass have delayed attempts to reach the new search area 150 miles east of Mitchell's original distress signal. Robin Davie, another Briton, whose 40-foot yacht, Cornwall, was dismasted on February 19, was expected to round Cape Horn today.

Confident cup-holders ready for Southgate

TEDDINGTON resume their defence of the Hockey Association Cup when they visit Southgate tomorrow for what should be the best of the four quarter-final matches (Sydney Friskin writes). Neil Campling, the Teddington manager, said yesterday: "We are not taking the matter lightly, because I know how determined Southgate will be. But we are looking forward to it as much as they are."

A hamstring injury will keep Gibbins out of the Teddington attack and, last night, Campling was still not certain who would take his place; but, with McGuire and Billson in top form, the holders' confidence seems unlikely to be shaken.

This is probably Southgate's last chance of winning anything this season. They are not the driving force of a few years ago, but the return of Welch last week has put new life in to their attack.

Isca, who have twice reached the semi-finals, will miss Graham Skinner when they entertain Cannock. Having had a broken nose reset, he is now troubled by a strained calf muscle. His brother, Robert, who has made four appearances for England, said: "I know we are going to be up against it, but we are a good cup side and have always stretched Cannock to the limit."

Formby, the only surviving non-League side will look to Capper and Bell for goals against Richmond, of the second division. Barford Tigers, despite their considerable potential, are unlikely to suppress Guildford.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

BARCELONA: World indoor championships

Men

60m: Semi-final qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, S Tilli (It) 6.64sec; 2, I Meite (Ivory Coast) 6.66; 3, A Gorgani (Iran) 6.73; Heat 2: 1, B Surin (Can) 6.56; 2, Y Ito (Japan) 6.68; 3, V Henderson (US) 6.71; 4, L Hedner (Swe) 6.72. Heat 3: 1, D Braithwaite (GB) 6.54; 2, G Nketia (NZ) 6.59; 3, Y Zisimides (Cyp) 6.67; 4, M Janssen (Aruba) 6.75. Heat 4: 1, A Genovelis (Gr) 6.64; 2, V Savin (Kaz) 6.74. Heat 5: 1, R Esmie (Can) 6.60; 2, M Blume (Ger) 6.66; 3, F Ramirez (Nor) 6.73; 4, N Guims (Fr) 6.77. Heat 6: 1, P Strenius (Swe) 6.64; 2, D Cojocaru (Rom) 6.66; 3, A Grigoryev (Russ) 6.71; 4, L Cunha (Port) 6.78. Heat 7: 1, S Carrat (Fr) 6.63; 2, M Rosswess (GB) 6.68; 3, M Greene (US) 6.69. 200m: Semi-final qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, N Eriksson (Swe) 21.04sec; 2, S Osovich (Ukr) 21.11; 3, S Keitel (Chile) 21.24; 4, K Ito (Japan) 21.55. Heat 2: 1, S Wariso (GB) 21.39; 2, R Tolbert (US) 21.57; 3, F Navarro (Sp) 21.61. Heat 3: 1, D Bailey (Can) 21.33; 2, T Stokos (Gr) 21.45. Heat 4: 1, M Foucan (Fr) 21.35; 2, D Cojocaru (Rom) 21.47; 3, J Mayoral (Sp) 21.54. Heat 5: 1, T Eriksson (Swe) 21.21; 2, J Regis (GB) 21.21; 3, E Wymeersch (Bel) 21.48. Heat 6: 1, G Moen (Nor) 21.04; 2, T Douglas (Berm) 21.27; 3, G Panayotopoulos (Gr) 21.43. 3,000 metres: Final qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, G Di Napoli (It) 7min 56.47sec; 2, O Olteanu (Rom) 7:56.75; 3, M Suleiman (Qatar) 7.58.78; 4, A Jimenez (Sp) 7:58.94; 5, B Jabbour (Mor) 7:57.32; 6, R Reina (US) 7:58.28; 7, R Benzine (Alg) 7:58.50. Heat 2: 1, S Creighton (Aus) 7:57.35; 2, J Mayock (GB) 7.57.91; 3, F O'Mara (Ire) 7:58.11; 4, I Viciosa (Sp) 7:58.11; 5, M Belabbes (Alg) 7:58.74. Long jump: Final qualifiers: Group A: 1, S Vaszelas (Gr) 7.84m; 2, G Georgiev (Bul) 7.79. Group B: 1, I Pedroso (Cuba) 8.12m; 2, E Walder (US) 8.03; 3, M Sunneborn (Swe) 7.91; 4, M Gombala (Cz) 7.90; 5, B Tudor (Rom) 7.89; 6, C Toure (Sen) 7.86; 7, R Emmiyan (Arm) 7.84; 8, E Nijs (Bel) 7.84; 9, J Greene (US) 7.84; 10, H Geng (China) 7.82; 11, K Samatski (Uzb) 7.79. British non-qualifier: F Salle 7.69

Women

60m: Semi-final qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, M Paschke (Ger) 7.12sec; 2, I Pukha (Ukr) 7.22; 3, C Opara-Thompson (Nigeria) 7.23; 4, J Perc (Slovenia) 7.34. Heat 2: 1, C Guidry (US) 7.25; 2, B McDonald (Jam) 7.31; 3, S Douglas (GB) 7.31. Heat 3: 1, Y Leshcheva (Russ) 7.26; 2, C Gaines (US) 7.28. Heat 4: 1, M Ottey (Jam) 7.12; 2, L Ravaonirina (Mad) 7.21; 3, N Fiere-Cooman (Holl) 7.21; 4, L Allen (Cuba) 7.22; 5, S Hernesniemi (Fin) 7.26. Heat 5: 1, N Rashchupkina (Russ) 7.33; 2, E Kotta (Gr) 7.35. British non-qualifier: A McGillivery 7.44. 200m: Semi-final qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, M Gainsford (Aus) 22.64sec; 2, N Voronova (Russ) 23.27; 3, M Azarashvili (Geo) 23.51; 4, F Ficher (Fr) 23.87. Heat 2: 1, S Lichtenhagen (Ger) 23.27; 2, P Davis (Bahamas) 23.29; 3, H Benesova (Cz) 23.87. Heat 3: 1, Z Georgieva (Bul) 23.37; 2, J Cuthbert (Jam) 23.50; 3, J Poelman (Holl) 23.58. Heat 4: 1, C Guidry (US) 23.38; 2, S Goncharenko (Russ) 23.41; 3, V Fomenko (Ukr) 23.52; 4, E Kotta (Gr) 23.59. British non-qualifier: S Williams 24.28. 800m: Semi-finals qualifiers: Heat 1: 1, L Vriesde (Sur) 2min 09.15sec; 2, Y Afanasyeva (Russ) 2.09.41; 3, P Stashkova (Bul) 2:09.58. Heat 2: 1, P Djate-Taillard (Fr) 2:04.09; 2, S Jongmans (Holl) 2:04.30; 3, I Samorokova (Russ) 2:04.47; 4, I Turner (Jam) 2.04.65; 5, A Suldesova (Cz) 2:05.49; 6, T Paulino (Moz) 2:06.95. Heat 3: 1, M Mutola (Moz) 2:05.41; 2, L Formanova (Cz) 2:06.32; 3, A Andres (Sp) 2:06.82. British non-qualifier: A Hunte 2.07.82.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 112 Seattle 99; Portland 99 Miami 90; San Antonio 100 Cleveland 98; Indiana 109 Sacramento 94.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: London Towers 84 Birmingham Bullets 83; Derby Bucks 98 Manchester Giants 96

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's indoor championships: Unbadged pairs: Quarter-finals: D Gibbons and C Clarke (Mansfield, North London) bt J Rees and J Body (Cammoggas) 19-13; M Birch and H Hayes (Selby) bt J Essex and D Wightman (Desborough, Maidenhead) 17-16; P Pond and S Sullivan (Whiteknights) bt P Oliver and N Poole (South Forest) 21-14; M Boswell and L Kemp (Egerton Park) bt M Porter and J Green (Dolphin) 23-17. Semi-finals: Gibbons and Clarke bt Birch and Hayes 27-12; Boswell and Kemp bt Pond and Sullivan 26-15. Final: Boswell and Kemp bt Gibbons and Clark 22-20. Singles: Last 16: W Davies (Worthing) bt J Staples (Cambridge Park) 21-17; L Jarman (Cambridge Chesterton) bt J Thomas (Nottingham) 21-13; M Monkton (Ilminster) bt J Smith (Folkestone) 21-16; J Roylance (North Walsham) bt N Beales (Egham) 21-1; B Brown (Colchester) bt N Shaw (Thornesby) 21-17; N May (West Cornwall) bt E Logan (Mansfield, North London) 21-14; D Hunt (Swindon) bt K Hawes (Cherwell) 21-19; V Mansell (Isle of Purbeck) bt J Lee (Cotswold) 21-20. Quarter-finals: Jarman bt Davies 21-20, Monkton bt Roylance 21-17, Brown bt May 21-14, Hunt bt Mansell 21-9. Semi-finals: Brown bt Hunt 21-13, Monkton bt Jarman 21-20. Final: Brown bt Monkton 21-13.

CRICKET

BOMBAY: Masters Cup: Semi-final: West Indies 289-7 (45 overs) (C L King 79, A L Logie 68, B Ebrahim 4-58). South Africa 193 (42.3 overs) (R G Pollock 60). West Indies won by 96 runs.

CYCLING

MARSEILLE: Paris-Nice race: Sixth stage (Avignon to Marseille, 179km): 1, M Saligari (It) 4hr 51min 53sec; 2, P Fornaciari (It) same time; 3, F Frattini (It) at 7sec. Overall: 1, L Jalabert (Fr) 22.12.24; 2, A Tchmil (Russ) at 1.43; 3, S Heulot (Fr) at 1.45.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 0 Southampton 2.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Newry v Coleraine postponed

LIBERATORS CUP: Cerro (Uru) 1 Independiente (Arg) 0

Thursday's late results

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 1 Wolverhampton 2; Blackburn 1 Sunderland 2; Nottm Forest 4 Notts County 3. Second division: Huddersfield 0 Man City 2, Oldham 0 Port Vale 0. Postponed: Sheffield Wed v Leicester

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Watford 1 Ipswich 5; Swindon 0 QPR 1

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Newcastle Town 3 Eastwood Hanley 1

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-final: Dundalk 0 Derry City 1

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Premier League: Under-19 Trophy: Quarter-final: Essex 3, Avon 1. Under-18 Trophy: Quarter-final: Shropshire 2 Greater Manchester 3. English Schools Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Third round: John Leggott SFC Humberside 3 Notre Dame SFC West Yorks 0. Under-16 Trophy: Third round: Hewett HS Norfolk 1 Copleston HS Suffolk 1

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nice 1 Lyon 2.

ITALIAN CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Foggia 1 Parma 1.

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Deportivo La Coruña 3 Athletic Bilbao 0

GOLF

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida: Honda Classic: First-round scores (US unless stated). 65: J McGovern. 66: M Calcavecchia. 67: N Faldo (GB), D Barr (Can). 68: I Woosnam (GB), M Wiebe, M Sullivan, M O'Meara, L Rinker. Selected scores: 69: C Montgomerie (GB). 70: S Ballesteros (Sp), B Langer (Ger). 71: D Feherty (N Ire), J Daly, N Price (Zim)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Hartford 2 Quebec 1; Philadelphia 3 Boston 2; Pittsburgh 4 New York Islanders 2; Chicago 3 Los Angeles 4; St Louis 5 Calgary 1; Anaheim 4 Detroit 4 (OT).

ICE SKATING

BIRMINGHAM: World championships: Pairs: Positions after free programme: 1, R Kovarikova and R Novotny (Cz) 1.0; 2, E Shishkova and V Naumov (Russ) 2.0; 3, J Meno and T Sand (US) 3.0; 4, M Yelisova and Abushkov (Russ) 4.0; 5, M Woetzel and I Steuer (Ger) 5.0; 6, M Petrova and A Sikharulidze (Russ) 6.0. British placing: 16, Rodgers and Aldred 16.0. Final: 1, Kovarikova and Novotny 1.5; 2, Shishkova and Naumov 3.5; 3, Meno and Sand, 5.5; 4, Yelisova and Bushkov, 6.0; 5, Woetzel and Steuer 6.0; 6, Petrova and Sikharulidze 9.0. British placing: 17, Rogers and Aldred 24.5. Ice dance (after original programme): 1, O Gritchuk and E Platov (Russ) 1.0 factored pt; 2, S Rahkamo and Petri Kokko (Fin) 2.0; 3, S Moniotte and P Lavanchy (Fr) 3.0; 4, S-L Bourne and V Kraatz (Can) 4.2; 5, A Krylova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ) 4.8; 6, M Anissina and G Peizerat (Fr) 6.0. 21, M Fitzgerald and V Kyle (GB) 19.6. Men: Final result: 1, E Stojko (Can) 2.0pts; 2, T Eldredge (US) 2.5; 3, P Candeloro (Fr) 5.5; 4, A Urmanov (Russ) 7.0; 5, E Millot (Fr) 8.0; 6, V Zagorodniuk (Ukr) 9.5; 7, S Davis (US) 9.5; 8, S Cousins (GB) 12.0; 9, I Kulik (Russ) 12.5; 10, Z Kerekes (Hun) 15.5. 19, C Shorten (GB) 29.0.

MOTOR SPORT

PORTUGUESE RALLY: Final placings: 1, C Sainz (Sp) Subaru, 5hr 32min 37sec; 2, J Kankkunen (Fin) Toyota, at 12sec; 3, C McRae (GB) Subaru, at 3.14; 4, A Schwarz (Ger) Toyota, at 4.59; 5, D Auriol (Fr) Toyota, at 6.13; 6, B Thiry (Bel) Ford, at 8.46; 7, R Burns (GB) Subaru at 14.21

RUGBY LEAGUE

WINFIELD CUP: Auckland 22 Brisbane 25

RUGBY UNION

SUPER 10 TOURNAMENT: Sydney: New South Wales 31 Otago 16

BUSA CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals: Swansea 29 Durham 17; West London IHE 27 Loughborough 12.

SQUASH

LISBON: Portuguese Open: Quarter-finals: P Marshall (Eng) bt S Elopuro (Fin) 15-12, 15-10, 15-6; P Nicol (Scot) wo A Hill (Aus) scr. R Eyles (Aus) bt S Parke (Eng) 15-11, 15-8, 6-0 ret. Jansher Khan (Pak) bt Zarak Jahan (Pak) 15-5, 15-5, 15-11

TENNIS

INDIAN WELLS: Men's tournament (US unless stated): Second round: P Sampras bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-3, 7-6; M Larsson (Swe) bt L Roux (Fr) 6-2, 6-2; D Wheaton bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 4-6, 6-2, 7-6; S Edberg (Swe) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-3 6-4. Third round: A Agassi (US) bt T Enqvist (Swe) 6-1, 6-3

COPENHAGEN: Men's tournament: Second round: J Bates (GB) bt S Lareau (Can) 7-6, 7-5.

ADVERTISEMENT

Small Company's New Golf Ball Flies Too Far; Could Make Obsolete Many Golf Courses

Pro Hits 400-Yard Tee Shots During Test Round

Want To Shoot An Eagle or Two?

By Mike Henson

YALESVILLE; CT. - A small golf company in Connecticut, U.S.A. has created a powerful, new ball that flies like a jet fighter,putts with the steady roll of a cue ball and bites the green on approach shots like a dropped cat. It's now available here, but don't look for it on weekend TV. Long-hitting pros could make a joke out of some of our finest courses with it. One pro who tested the ball drove it 400 yards, reaching the green on all but the longest par-fours. Scientific tests by an independent lab using a hitting machine prove the ball out-distances major brands dramatically.

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Balls are available in white only.

RACING 34-35
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SPORT

BOXING 39
HIDE CONFIDENT
OF BEATING BOWE
IN LAS VEGAS

SATURDAY MARCH 11 1995

Briton takes sprint silver

Surin dashes Braithwaite's hopes of gold

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN BARCELONA

DARREN BRAITHWAITE made an admirable attempt to fill the shoes of Linford Christie here yesterday when he finished second in the 60 metres at the world indoor championships. Bruny Surin, of Canada, the defending champion, became the first man to win the title twice.

With the Christie saga which preceded these championships coming to a close on Thursday with confirmation that he would not be taking part, it was left to Braithwaite and Michael Rosswess to get on with the job for Britain. Rosswess narrowly failed to reach the final but Braithwaite had the best run of his life.

He lost the final in the first half, his start and pick-up not quite matching Surin's. Over the last 30 metres, Braithwaite snapped at the heels of the Canadian in the lane next to him but could not close the gap. Surin won in 6.46sec, the first sprinter to break 6.5sec in the history of these championships, which are being held for the fifth time.

Braithwaite recorded his fourth 60 metres personal best of the season, with 6.51sec, and Robert Esmie, another Canadian, was third in 6.55sec. Rosswess could only watch from the sidelines, having recorded the same time down to 0.01sec as Marc Blume, of Germany, in the semi-finals and losing out on the toss of a coin for the last place in the final.

Had Rosswess been informed immediately that it was known, over a week ago, that Christie was thinking of pulling out, he might even have had a medal here. But he stopped training to have a break and came to Barcelona at short notice, having notraced for almost a month.

Braithwaite, 26, from Haringey AC, has benefited this winter from regular training with John Regis and Tony Jarrett, under the supervision of Mike McFarlane, their coach. His experience here was in contrast to the European championships in Helsinki last summer, when he dropped the baton in the relay.

"After what happened in Helsinki I was so dejected," he said. "People in the street would say: 'You're the one who dropped the baton.' It made me think I'm really going to go for it this year. I would not want to go through that again."

Barcelona results 39

Surin's profile in Canada is out of proportion to his achievements. Because the sport has slumped in popularity since the Ben Johnson affair, Surin's position as one of the world's most consistent sprinters has been largely ignored. Yet he was fourth here in the 1992 Olympic Games 100 metres and fifth in the 1993 outdoor world championships.

The women's 60 metres title went to Merlene Ottey, of Jamaica. Ottey, with a variety of successes over 200 metres, has at last triumphed in the short sprint. Her victory, in 6.97sec, gave her the 60 metres gold after finishing fourth, third and second successively in her last three attempts.

Other than the 60 metres, it was a depressing day for the Britain team and there will need to be a considerable show of form by the few survivors over the next two days if these are to become championships the team management will want to remember. The women, especially, were appalling. The best British women stayed at home, most of them, like Sally Gunnell, preferring to concentrate on preparing for the summer season.

Melanie Neef, Britain's only woman medal hope, wished she had. She failed to make even the semi-finals of the 400 metres; her time of 53.34sec in her heat was a long way off her Scottish record, which she set this season, of 52.57sec.

"I am disappointed to have sacrificed all the training I could have been doing for the summer," Neef said. "To go out in the first round was pathetic." She was, however, in the toughest heat. Ahead of her were Magdalena Nedelcu, of Romania, a former junior world champion, Sandie Richards, of Jamaica, the defending champion, and Sandra Myers, of Spain, a former outdoor bronze medal-winner.

Only one British woman in action yesterday, Stephanie Douglas in the 60 metres, made any progress. However, even Douglas went out in the second round, recording 7.30sec. Those who fell in their heats were Aileen McGillivary, in the 60 metres, Sharon Williams, in the 200 metres, Abigail Hunte, in the 800 metres, and Susan Earnshaw, together with Neef, in the 400 metres.

The men's 400 metres pair fared no better. Neither Paul Slythe nor Mark Hylton, of whom much was hoped, went beyond the first round. Hylton, 18, said he was feeling the after-effects of a cold. Given that these championships are bereft of quality in depth, this was all very disappointing.

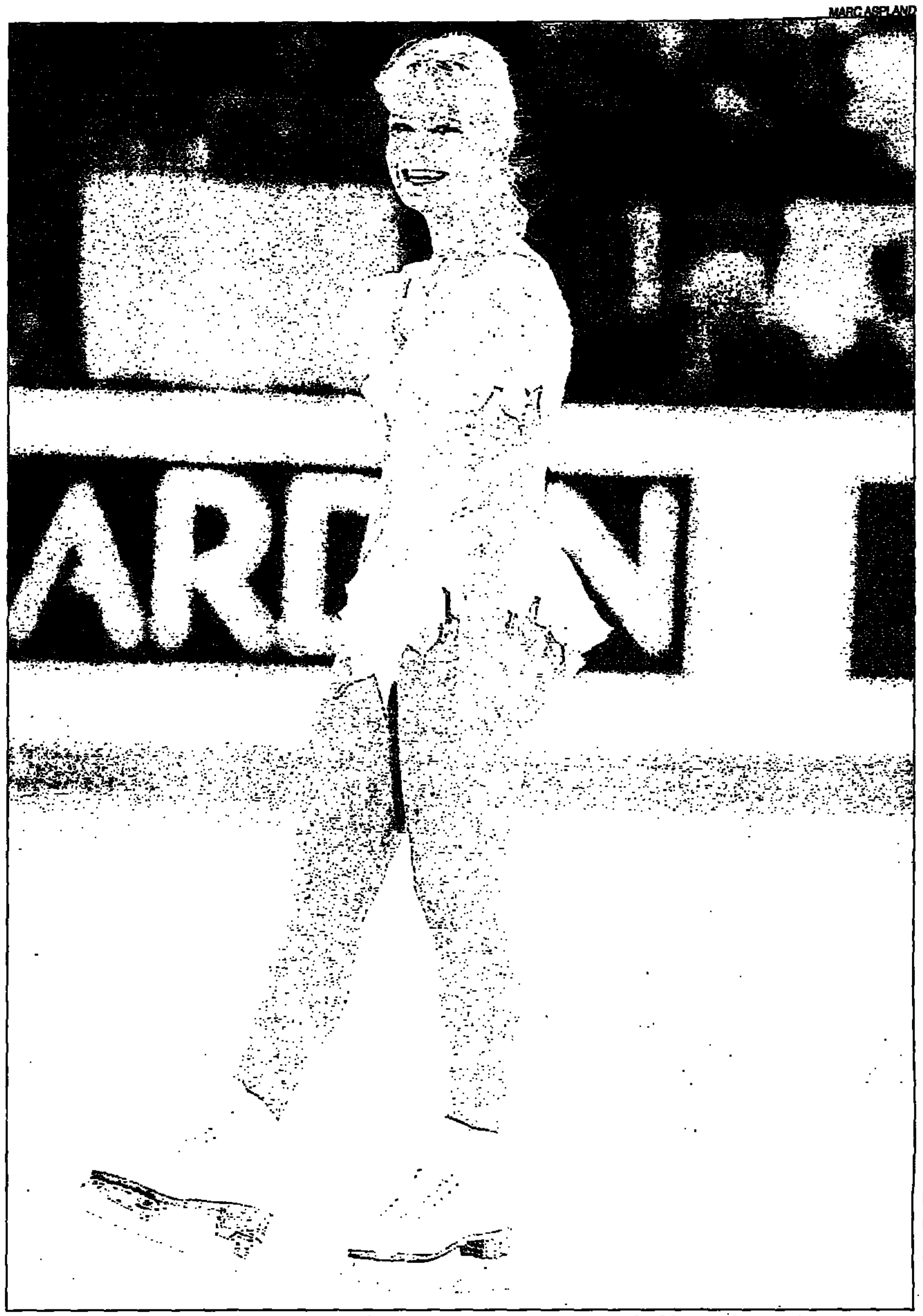
At least John Mayock made progress in the 3,000 metres, qualifying for the final tomorrow. He, too, had not been well, having spent Sunday and Monday in bed with flu. However, he showed no weaknesses here, finishing second in his heat behind Shaun Creighton, of Australia, just inside eight minutes.

The 3,000 metres is one of the few events remotely deserving world championships status. Mayock will be up against Gennaro di Napoli, of Italy, the defending champion, Frank O'Mara, twice the champion, Mohamed Suleiman, of Qatar, the Olympic 1500 metres bronze medal-winner, and Isaac Viciosa, European 1500 metres silver medal-winner, from Spain.

GABRIEL BOUYS

Ottey, who won the women's 60 metres gold medal, cruises to victory in her heat in Barcelona yesterday

MARC ASPLAND



Bobek relaxes on the ice after putting herself in a commanding position in pursuit of the world figure skating title

Bobek figures high on agenda

BY JOHN HENNESSY

IT BEGINS to appear that all the publicity surrounding Nicole Bobek, holder of the United States figure skating title, is justified. Yesterday, she won the original programme section in the world championships at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, and so stamped a firm authority on the event.

The expected duel between Bobek and Surya Bonaly seems already to have been snuffed out. Bonaly was only fourth yesterday and would need the help of a willing accomplice to have any hope of winning the title. The others in prime position with Bobek are Olga Markova, of Russia, and Lu Chen, of China, who are second and third respectively.

Bobek skated like the princess she is now widely taken to be in the United States, when attention is removed from her boisterous activities off the ice, and she was quick to establish her credentials yesterday with a superb opening combination.

Others had introduced their programme with a triple lutz to double toe loop, but Bonaly put a hand down, Markova had no flow and Lu was cramped for space in front of the barrier.

Bobek landed the lutz on a gloriously long running edge, so that the double jump became child's play, as was the dangerous double axel which followed shortly afterwards. Her spirals were the best of the afternoon and the triple toe loop held no terrors.

Markova was ahead of Bonaly at this stage in the European championships in January and may yield to the French champion's more versatile approach in the free skating, but Lu has a strong pedigree and Bobek, as she showed in the qualifying competition last Monday, is equipped to compete with the best.

There were the usual bizarre disagreements among the judges, notably Anatoly Bogatyrev, of Russia, who somehow found cause to place Bobek fifth and Markova first.

The Austrian judge had Bobek in third place behind her elfin compatriot, Michelle Kwan, and Bonaly, but the other seven at least seemed to pick the right winner.

Jenna Arrowsmith, the British champion at 14, was 29th, but she will be allowed to skate tomorrow with the 24 survivors as the representative of the host country.

Elvis Stojko, a rugged Canadian, shrugged off all the troubles that have beset him over the past couple of months to defend successfully his title on Thursday night. He finished first in the free skating and so overhauled the United States champion, Todd Eldredge. Steven Cousins, batting for Britain, could not reproduce his best form but still finished eighth, the highest British placing since the days of his namesake, Robin, 15 years ago.

Portrait, page 38
Results, page 39

European hope in danger of failing to qualify

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN FORT LAUDERDALE

COLIN MONTGOMERIE was angry with himself and his putter yesterday after failing to take advantage of conditions which gave him an ideal chance to move into contention for the Honda Classic title here.

He led the field out at 7am when the winds, which have battered the course all this week, were at their lightest. But he could do no better than 75 for a two-round score of 144, which left him in serious danger of missing the cut.

He was left hoping that the strong gusts forecast for later in the day would drive up the qualifying score. But if strong winds do arrive it could be bad news for Nick Faldo, Ian Woosnam and Severiano Ballesteros, all hoping to make a strong bid for the halfway lead.

Montgomerie admitted that he had let slip a glittering opportunity for, after setting out from the tenth tee, he played his first 14 holes in relatively calm conditions. "I am in 85th place right now and I need to be among the top 70 to survive" he said. "I think I have a chance because the scores are likely to go up rather than down. But if I do miss the cut, it will be my own fault. I didn't play well and I missed a couple of crucial short putts."

The Scot, who is making his debut in this event, recognised the importance of playing all four rounds in his build-up to next month's Masters. He began the day four shots off the lead and finished 11 strokes behind the American Ryder Cup player, Mark O'Meara, who handed in a 65 for a nine-under-par aggregate of 133.

Montgomerie got a birdie at the 15th, but missed from inside a yard on the 5th and 6th greens and was unable to achieve a saving birdie over the closing three holes.

☐ Sam Torrance, playing "with great patience and resolve" in the rain, shares the lead with Robert Karlsson, of Sweden, after two rounds of the Moroccan Open in Agadir. The Scot scored 70 and Karlsson 69 to finish on 137, seven under par, one shot ahead of the overnight leader, Alexander Cejka, who could manage only 72.

LEADING SCORES (GB unless stated): 137: R Karlsson (Swe) 68, 69; S Torrance 67, 70. 138: A Cejka (Ger) 66, 72. 140: M James 70, 70; M Mackenzie 68, 72; G Levenson (SA) 69, 71. 141: A Gilner (Swe) 68, 73; S Richardson 70, 71. 142: D Gilford 71, 71; C Rocca (It) 72, 70; A Coltart 70, 72; I Spencer 72, 70; D Carter 69, 73; E Darcy 68, 74.

Wembley removed as semi-final venue

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

WEMBLEY has been declared off-limits for the semi-finalists in the FA Cup this season, ending the trend of the past two years. In a return to tradition, only the final will be staged at the national stadium.

The remaining four clubs will play off at the usual venues, such as Villa Park, Highbury or Old Trafford, depending on which teams come through the quarter-finals today and tomorrow. The semi-finals will be shown live on television on Sunday, April 9, with staggered kick-off times yet to be agreed.

"It is not sensible or suitable to play two semi-finals at Wembley on the weekend of April 8 and 9," a Football Association spokesman said. "There is also a feeling that Wembley should be reserved for the final."

The tragedy of the semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest at Hillsborough in 1989, which cost 96 Liverpool supporters their lives, first prompted a review of safety and security at high-profile matches. In 1991, the semi-final featuring Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal was switched to Wembley, while Forest took on West Ham United at Villa Park.

A year later, it was back to normal, with Liverpool playing Portsmouth at Highbury, and then at Villa Park in a replay, while Sunderland beat Norwich at Hillsborough. However, in 1993, Tottenham and Arsenal were again drawn together, and Wembley was utilised for a second time. Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United objected to being sent to Elland Road for their semi-final and insisted they, too, wanted to play their game at Wembley. More than 150,000 spectators watched the matches.

It set a precedent that was repeated last season, when Chelsea and Luton Town were given a Wembley date, and then Oldham Athletic demanded the same stage for their game against Manchester United.

The ties drew less than 60,000 each, and the administrative problems of staging consecutive Wembley semi-finals is considerable. Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, said: "The FA policy surrounding the choice of venues has been to use Wembley only when safety and security reasons dictate."

There are those who believe Tottenham's name is writ large on the FA Cup this season. However, in the quarter-final against Liverpool at Anfield today, they will need a touch more than divine deliverance to qualify for a last-four place. Liverpool, who reached the final of the Coca-Cola Cup by beating Crystal Palace 2-0 on aggregate on Wednesday, are unbeaten in 13 cup-ties during 1994-95.

FA CUP

Age of innocence 36
Rush's new target 36
Gallen homes in 36

Historically, Tottenham are also up against it. In five postwar FA Cup meetings with Liverpool, the North London club has yet to win, with two of the defeats coming in the quarter-finals.

Tottenham yesterday signed a four-year, £4 million shirt sponsorship deal with Hewlett-Packard, the computer company, but Alan Sugar, the club chairman, will not release any of the money to Gerry Francis, the manager, for team strengthening. "It has been long agreed with Gerry that any funds he needs to buy more players must be self-generated," Sugar said. "I dare say we will see some movement in and out of the club after the end of this season."

Wolverhampton Wanderers, from the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, travel to Selhurst Park to take on Palace in the other semi-final this afternoon — Everton play Newcastle United and Queens Park Rangers meet Manchester United tomorrow — and Graham Taylor, the Wolverhampton manager, was encouraged yesterday to hear that Steve Bull, his prolific forward, was likely to play. His recovery from a thigh injury is improving "by the hour". However, John de Wolf, Taylor's Dutch centre back, has been ruled out for the rest of the season after sustaining cartilage and ligament damage to his right knee on Wednesday.

Blackburn Rovers attempt to stretch their lead in the FA Carling Premiership to six points when they play against Coventry City at Highfield Road today. Alan Wright, 23, the defender, will no longer to be able to offer his assistance as, yesterday, he joined Aston Villa for £900,000.

Peter Shilton, 45, the former England goalkeeper, also found himself a new club when Bolton Wanderers signed him as cover for Keith Branagan, their regular No 1, and Aidan Davison. "He's obviously got a wealth of knowledge and experience to offer," Bruce Rioch, the manager, said. Bolton, fifth in the Endsleigh first division, play second-placed Middlesbrough at Burnden Park today.

TIMES SPORT ON MONDAY

FESTIVAL FAVOURITES
Jamie Osborne, favoured to be the most successful jockey at the Festival next week, looks ahead to a glorious Cheltenham

THE BOYS FROM BRAZIL
Is the future of English football in the right hands? Rob Hughes sees a Brazilian schooling

BOXING'S HIDE AND SEEK
Norwich's Herbie Hide takes on Riddick Bowe under the bright lights of Las Vegas

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If you can afford it, flaunt it — the new Bentley

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THE TIMES

CAR 95

Frances Edmonds hits male drivers for six

Page 11

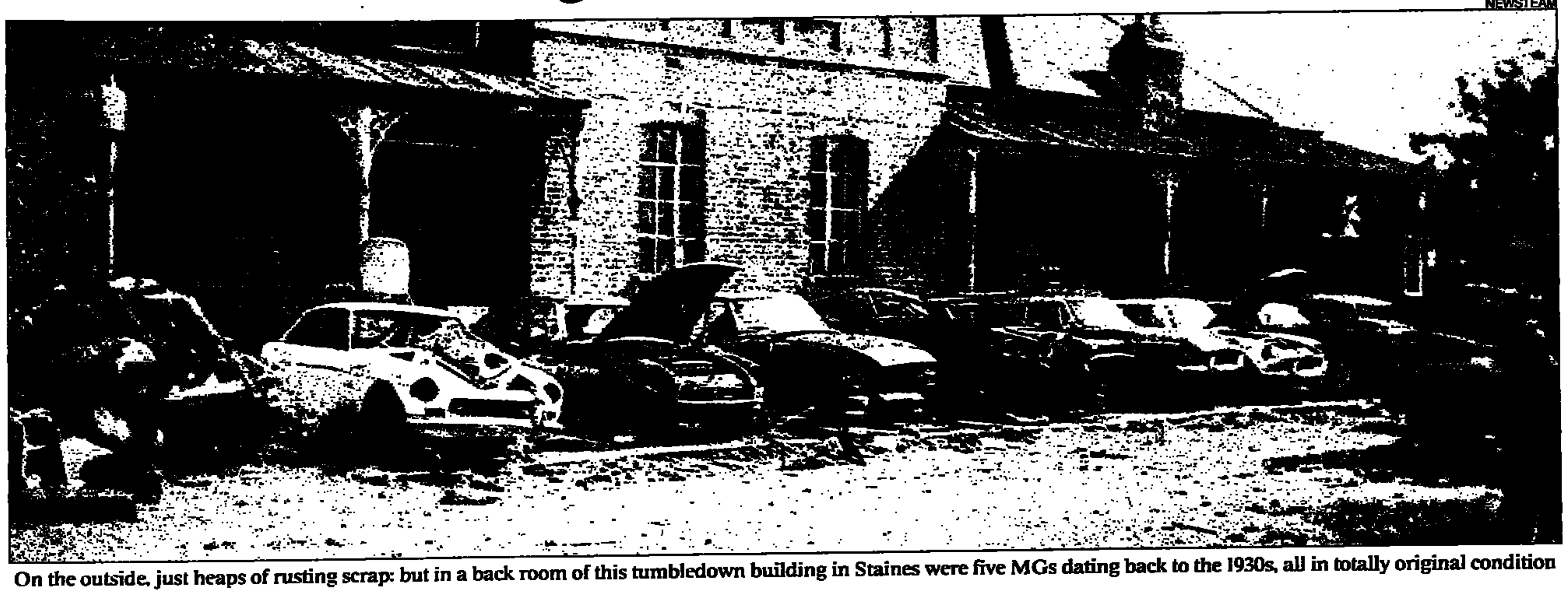
SATURDAY MARCH 11 1995

Vaughan Freeman on the rich pickings for collectors to be found in old garages and barns

Where there's junk there's brass

. . . but blind faith, not hopes of a fortune, motivate most in the strange world of car relics

NEWSTEAM



On the outside, just heaps of rusting scrap: but in a back room of this tumbledown building in Staines were five MGs dating back to the 1930s, all in totally original condition

Worthless heap of junk ... or the remnants of a precious piece of motoring history?

You might think that with the boom in collecting classic cars, the nation's stocks of forgotten gems would be exhausted. Yet barns, garages, attics and fields still yield a treasure trove of automotive collectibles, even if one man's passion looks like rusting junk to the rest of us.

To find just one classic in true lost-treasure style is a rarity. To find five, as Darlington-based car restorer Simon Robinson did, is little short of a miracle.

Simon's love for the MG dates from his first car, a 1600cc MGA Mk 2. He recalls: "When I had that car, there was really only one place in the country where you could go for MG spares and parts, a firm called Stanley Richardson's of Staines."

He still has motoring magazines dating from 1965 which carried adverts for Richardson's. So when a property developer friend called to say he had just bought the old Richardson's buildings, and there was something worth seeing in a back room, Simon was on the first train south.

He remembers: "I walked into the garage buildings, and into a back room with a wooden parquet floor. The place was filthy, dusty, and there in a corner, in a row, untouched for 20 years, were the cars. It was very strange, as if the place had just run down over the years and the cars had been set to one side and left."

Lucky strike: Simon Robinson with four of the MGs he found. "It was very strange . . . the cars are just as they were when they were driven into that room 20 years ago"

The cars, complete with MOT certificates, log books and ownership documents, were a white 1938 MG TA with 60,000 miles on the clock; a dark green 1949 MG TC; a 1951 MG TD; a 1955 MG TF; and a 1962 MGA Mark 2 roadster that had clocked up 114,000 miles.

Simon believes the cars were put aside as the basis of a collection, and then forgotten. He says: "They are just as they were when they were driven into that room 20 years ago. They are in really good condition, nothing is missing and some you could have driven out. More importantly, they are all in totally original condition, not tampered with or reconditioned in any way.

"It was a super, super find. People find the odd one-off car in a barn or whatever, but to find five cars, one of each model from the same marque, is unheard of. The cars are rare, very rare, and even rarer is the fact that they have not been restored."

Simon has now sold all five cars for between £15,000 and £25,000 each, which includes his work in cleaning them up and getting them running. One will go to Germany, another to Switzerland.

You don't have to find complete cars, though, to have a classic commodity on your hands. Tom Barr-Smith wasted no time when he heard what was coming up for sale at the Robert Brooks auction in London last month. With typical British understatement, the Brooks catalogue described lot 265 as "a challenging restoration project of one of the most exciting British Le Mans cars of the late 1960s".

The challenge was to take all that was left of the famous Healey SR racing car designed by Geoffrey Healey and Barry Bilbie — four wheels (plus well-raced tyres), radiator, oil tank, bits of chassis and brakes — and turn them back into a whole car.

Tom, whose car collection already includes three Healeys and "a couple of Bentleys", decided he had to have the remnants: "It was a triumph of passion over common sense really," he said from his farm half-way between Sydney and Melbourne.

The box of bits cost him £2,200, and he now intends to spend a minimum of Aus$100,000 (£45,000) having the car rebuilt to running order at the respected Healey Factory in Melbourne. He says: "I'll never make money on it. If I thought I could then I'd give up farming.

"I haven't even seen the parts. They were bought on my behalf. They could send me a box of Fiesta parts and I wouldn't know the difference."

His blind faith, rather than hopes of making a fortune finding, restoring and then selling an unknown treasure, strikes a common chord with those who move in the strange world of car relics. Which is why specialist magazines such as *Classic Car* are filled every month with pictures of ancient Peugeots buried under bicycles and boxes in dusty garages, of windowless shabby Lotus Elans, rotting MGs and sad-looking Alvis and Jaguar models seeking indulgent owners to restore them.

A hoard of at least half a dozen remains, ranging from an almost complete 1930s Singer 9 to a Cadillac and a pair of Land Rovers, was discovered last month in farm buildings in Hertforshire.

Cars need not be exotic or sporty to be collectible: Chris Buckle's passion is the humble Hillman Imp. Chris, from Stroud in Gloucestershire, now has 15 or so Imps, and has "owned, bought or sold" more than 60 in the past two decades. Friends give them to him, or he buys them for anything between £20 and £400.

Fully restored, the cars — and Chris has one from every year of the Imp's production from 1967 to 1975 — would fetch from £1,000 each. Chris says: "It started because I was involved in Hillman Imp motorsport, doing a bit of rallying and classic car trialling, and it was cheaper to buy a whole old car for spares than to buy the spares individually."

He went on: "I had a few, and then a friend suggested I should collect the whole set. It seemed a good idea so here I am. I think they are quite a good little car. They have got a bit of character, as opposed to a lot of stuff that's around now. They have problems, like the trans-axle, head gasket and so on, but it was a car ahead of its time, and when it's running well it'll knock spots off a Mini, plus there is enough space in the back for two adults and they don't have to be dwarfs."

So which Imp does Chris like to run around in? Well, none of them actually work at the moment — so he drives a Rover SDi and his wife a Mitsubishi Shogun.

Cars are not the only collectibles. The redoubtable Ferguson diesel tractor turned farming inside out, driving horses off the land within a few years of being introduced.

Enthusiast John Popplewell has more than 100 "Fergys" on his farm at Snelland in Lincolnsire. They stretch for hundreds of yards in a former orchard. Mr Popplewell says: "Grandfather started the collection in 1948." Now John's son Mark runs a business repairing and restoring the vehicles. The first of the Fergys cost £228 in the 1930s. Today an immaculately restored model will fetch £6,000.

The money is not John Popplewell's prime concern, however. "Ferguson was a clever man, miles ahead of his time," he said. "He introduced anti-lock braking, and four-wheel drive. His tractors are part of our history and have to be preserved."

HISTORIC CARS

Lord Montagu on the Austin Seven
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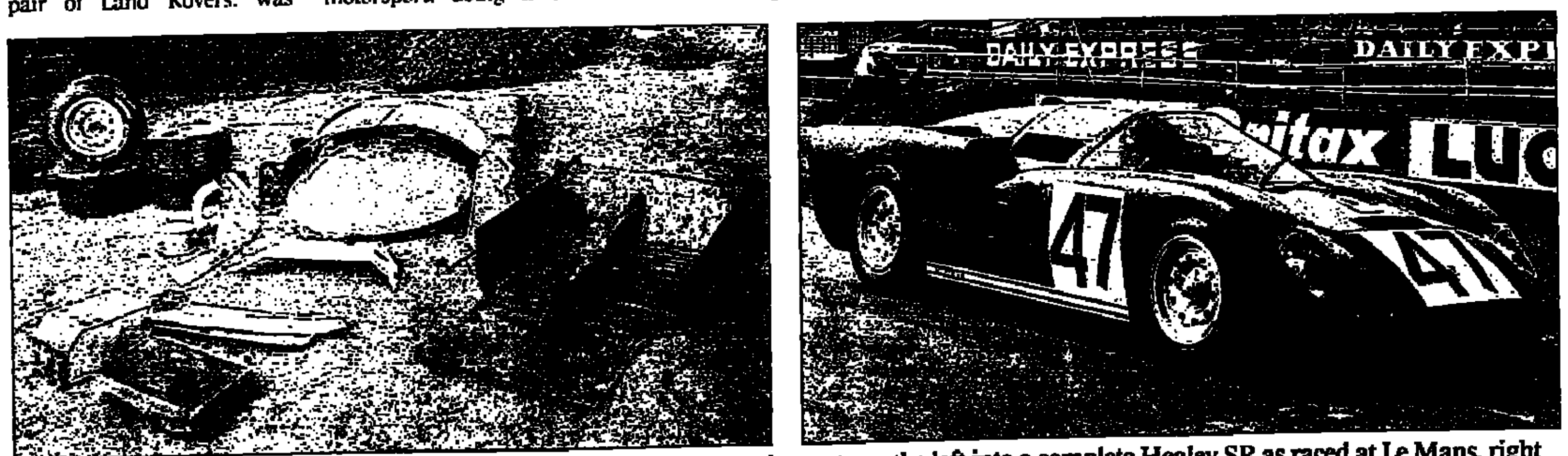

"A challenging restoration project": Tom Barr-Smith will try to turn the parts on the left into a complete Healey SR as raced at Le Mans, right

Brussels ruling sparks classic car fears

A VAT change could trigger an exodus of top vehicles from Britain

Historic cars worth millions could disappear forever from Britain because of changes in VAT rulings which the industry believes will wreck this country's position at the heart of the international trade in classics (Vaughan Freeman writes).

Robert Brooks, of the London-based Brooks vintage, veteran and collectors' cars auction house, fears the change, which will impose VAT at 17.5 per cent on classic cars re-imported into the UK from outside Europe, will strangle the trade here and push prices out of the range of British enthusiasts.

He says: "These changes will eventually drain all the really great cars from Britain. The cars will leave us and go to America, and there's nothing the government can do about it. It's going to devastate the old car world. London is the world trading centre but that is changing and will change further, for the worse. It is very, very bad news."

The VAT changes will be introduced in May, under a directive from Brussels.

Mr Brooks is among those who fear they will mean that cars that would have come back to Britain to be re-sold, or brought in after being bought abroad by enthusiasts, will in future go elsewhere.

"There is also the problem that if a car is sold here but exported, in the past it could have come back to the UK a couple of times in one year for resale and re-export," said Mr Brooks. "Now it will attract VAT at 17.5 per cent each time it re-enters the country."

David Huyton, senior VAT partner at chartered accountants Moore Stephens, said: "In the past, cars exported from the UK could be imported back without any VAT liability, provided VAT or purchase tax had been paid when the car was first exported. This relief will soon be axed, so it has become important for us to find ways of minimising the tax in order to help importers and enthusiasts to continue bringing back cars of great historical interest.

"If we can convince the Customs and Excise that a particular classic car should be considered a collector's item, then after the Finance Bill has received Royal Assent, the car will only be liable for VAT at the special rate of 2.5per cent."

Mr Huyton's firm recently won a tribunal hearing against Customs and Excise over the re-import of a model train which was defined as a collector's item and so attracted VAT at 2.5 per cent. He said: "That train ruling widens the definition of a collector's item and it could have far-reaching effects. At present, very few cars are considered by Customs to be collector's items."

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'Drivers stand accused of making children ill, as if they and parents were in some way two different breeds'

Stop this unhealthy treatment of motorists

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard

A conference in London this week looking at the link between vehicle pollution and urban health should never have taken place, because it should not have been needed. The fact that it was demonstrates that successive British governments have taken an utterly cynical and reckless attitude towards the health effects of car emissions and in so doing they have created the myth of the uncaring motorist.

Evidence that car pollution causes asthma and other diseases is so overwhelming as to be not worth arguing about. Yet the absence of any serious official action has the effect of tainting motorists.

Walking, bicycling environmentalists are allowed to perpetrate the notion that the use of the car in cities is the fault of the car user and the car manufacturer. This is absolute tosh: every scrap of anecdotal evidence suggests that significant numbers of commuters would abandon their cars if the alternative was quick, reliable, cheap and clean.

The debate about such alternatives is deliberately steered in the direction of trains which, especially since privatisation, are likely to be the least, not the most, attractive option. And, in any event, commuter trains are already packed to the hanging straps, a fact which alone demolishes the idea that drivers actually prefer to sit in traffic jams.

Surely the real answer to urban jams and urban pollution is neither new nor difficult to bring about. The answer is park-and-ride. I know this to be true because park-and-ride is the only option that will get me out from behind the wheel.

It is the fastest and cheapest method for me to get from my home to the nearest city, which is Bath, and indeed Bath is doubling the size of the park-and-ride car park that I use to keep in touch with demand.

Even around London there are great swathes of land either owned by, or accessible to, government agencies which could be turned into park-and-ride termini. That would be a far better use for the land set aside for M25 widening which, by the government's own admission, will relieve congestion only in the brief interval between the new lanes opening and the new lanes filling up.

Other red herrings include the daft debate about electric cars, which will solve the pollution problem but not the congestion. Research, reports, think tanks ... these are all alternatives to doing something.

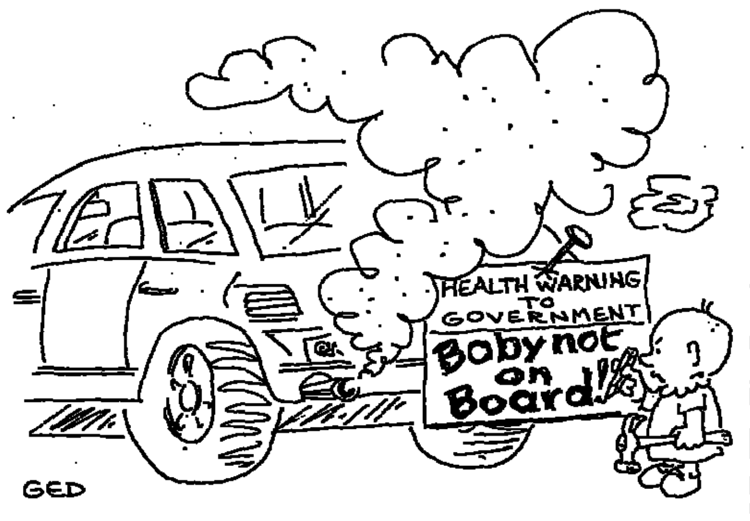
Meanwhile the motorist stands accused of malevolently making children ill, as if a motorist and a parent were in some way two different breeds. Car manufacturers need no help from me, but they and the motorist have been the scapegoats for official inaction for far too long. Bashing the motorist is a bloodsport whose time is over.

The tragic deaths of three young people on Monday was announced in every newspaper and on every radio and television bulletin as a case of joyriding, but don't blame the media because the Home Office used that term when it introduced the 1992 Aggravated Vehicle Taking Act to cover such incidents.

But the use of the word joyriding is a case of the tail wagging the dog: society has merely taken up a term used by the so-called joyriders themselves, an example of criminals imposing their view of themselves on the rest of us.

I find the word offensive and we urgently need a new one. Everyone in a joyrider's car should be charged, not just the driver, because these cases are often a consequence of youths egging each other on.

But back to That Word: my opinionated readers can help out here and not only will all viable ideas be published but I shall also pass them on to Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, who will doubtless want to set the right example by using a word less redolent of a fairground ride. Beware, though, of switching from trivialising the offence to glamourising it.



AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: road width reduced on the Lea Valley Viaduct.
A129 Putney Bridge: reduced to one lane each way for repairs.
A214 Trinity Rd, Wandsworth: temporary lights at junction with Burntwood Lane cause regular delays, especially northbound in mornings.
A501 Kings Cross one-way: major repairs with lane closures. 24-hour restrictions, long delays.
A1 East Finchley: lane restrictions on Falloden Way and Lyttleton Rd, regular delays.

● **SOUTH EAST**

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate): contraflow causes regular delays and affects traffic joining from M23 northbound.
M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): widening work with contraflow.
M4 Berkshire J11-12 (Reading-Theale): Very narrow lanes each way for new service area construction. Closed from 8pm tonight until midday tomorrow.
A3 Guildford, Surrey: contraflow between Abbotswood and Cathedral interchange.
A27 Chichester Bypass, Sussex: contraflow between Westhampnett and Whyke roundabouts.
M275 Hampshire between Portsmouth and **M27**: contraflow for maintenance. Also lane closures on **M27** between J11-J12 (Fareham/M275).
A40 Oxfordshire: roadworks between Cassington and Eynsham, narrow lanes.
A420 Oxfordshire: roadworks at Farringdon between bypass and Longcott turn, extra restrictions at weekends and overnight. Long delays.

● **SOUTH WEST**

M5 Glos J11-12 (Cheltenham/-Gloucester): contraflow.
A417 Gloucester: restrictions on Barnwood bypass between the Churchdown Lane bridge and Gloucester trading estate roundabout. Contraflow from March 20.
A419 Swindon: contraflow between Turnpike roundabout and A361 junction, with slip road onto B4141 Hyde Rd closed.
A350 Semington, Wilts: roadworks and temporary lights in High Street, long delays.
A350 Warminster Rd, Westbury: Temporary lights for roadworks, long delays.
A40: only one lane open in each direction over M5 overbridge on Golden Valley bypass.
A38 Wellington, Somerset: works at roundabout at J26 of M5.
A375 Sidmouth Rd, Honiton: temporary lights.
A3074 Cornwall between Carbis Bay and Saint Ives: temporary lights.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

A43 Silverstone, Northants: resurfacing work, delays expected, no work on Sundays.
A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands: flyover construction at A452 junction and widening between M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island (40mph limit and lane closures).
A452 Shire Oak: work on Chester Rd between Castlehill Rd and Lindon Rd, northbound closed north of Lichfield Rd (A461) with diversions.
A38 Bournbrook, Birmingham: Bristol Rd closed between Edgbaston Park Rd & Selly Oak railway bridge, diversion.
A441 Birmingham: Pershore Rd multiple temporary lights.
A46 North of Syston: contraflow slip road closures.

● **NORTH**

M6 Cheshire J20-21A (Lymm/-Croft): roadworks continue near Thelwall Viaduct. Southbound entry slip closed at J21.
A596 Aspatria, Cumbria: closed for major works. Diversions. Through traffic advised to avoid.
M62 West Yorkshire J25-J26 (Brighouse/Chain Bar): contraflow and 50mph limit. Westbound entry slip closed at J25.
M18 J3-4: contraflow and lane restrictions. Northbound entry slip closed at J3.
M57 J1 (Tarbock Island): lane closures at roundabout junction with the M62, additional restrictions at weekends.
A655 Whitwood, near Castleford: temporary lights at the junction of Willowbridge Lane and Whitwood Lane. One lane under M62 bridge.
A61 Crown Point Bridge, Leeds: width restrictions. Diversion along East St and South Accommodation Rd.
A58M Leeds inner ring road, westbound exit slip road to Vicar Lane closed.
A1M Co Durham between Bowburn and Carville: contraflow two lanes each way and 50mph limit.

● **WALES**

M4 Gwent J23-22 (Magor/-Newhouse): lane restrictions and contraflow for widening between Magor and Rogiet for second Severn crossing.
M4 South Glamorgan: work to widen interchange at J32 (Coryton).
A5 Maerdy, Clwyd: Glyn bends, restrictions including temporary lights at times and short-term closures.
A465 between Llandarcy and Aberdulais: contraflow on Saltings viaduct for resurfacing. Long delays.
A4223 Gelliwastad Rd, Pontypridd: one way system.
A472 Usk, Gwent: temporary traffic lights for gas repairs.

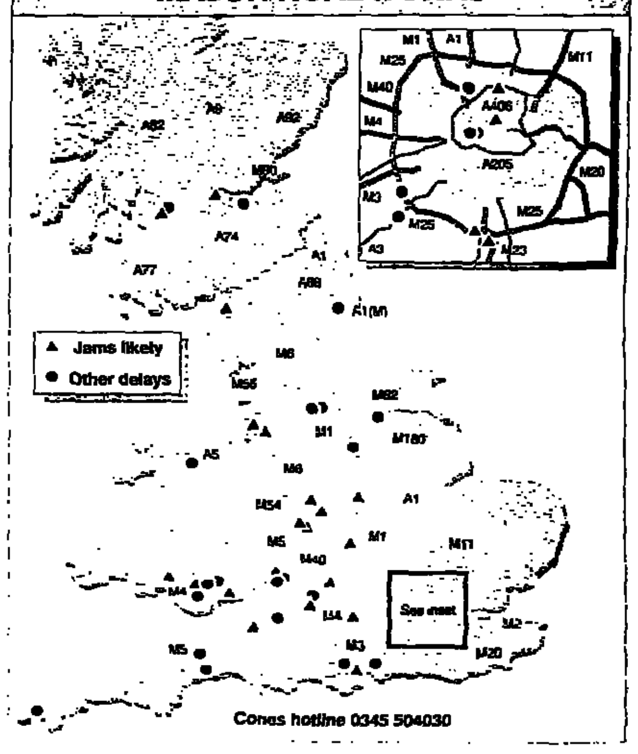
● **SCOTLAND**

M8: contraflow between J26-J28 Hillington and Glasgow airport.
Edinburgh: width restrictions on High St between North and South bridges.
M876 Kincardine Bridge Rd, near J5 of M80: contraflow delays at peak times. Abnormal loads require escort.
A76 Afton Bridgend, New Cumnock: temporary lights.

● **NORTHERN IRELAND**

A26 Co Londonderry: temporary lights Greenhill Rd and Ballymoney bypass.
A1 Co Down: only one lane open southbound on Hillsborough Bypass between Hillsborough roundabout and Moira Junction.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



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Accident blindspot: danger in sight

According to one survey, up to 5 million drivers have impaired vision, reports

Ken Rogers

ADRIAN BROOKS

The eyes have it ... or do they? Traffic policeman Tony King with some of his eye-test equipment. He believes drivers should be tested regularly

Tony King, a Thames Valley traffic policeman, was so convinced poor eyesight caused car crashes that he applied for — and got — a Home Office grant to prove it.

His drivers' eyesight survey showed that 20 per cent of nearly two thousand drivers checked could not even pass the current, basic number plate test while five per cent had really serious defects.

With about 25 million drivers in the UK, that means 5 million could be driving illegally and more than one million are accidents waiting to happen.

Yet after more than three years, Mr King's report, "Defective Eyesight — A Road Safety Problem?", is still gathering dust on a shelf in Whitehall while the official Government view remains that the current eyesight standard is "acceptable". "It's bureaucracy gone mad," says Mr King. "The current, once-in-a-lifetime test is very basic. It's just not adequate for the 1990s."

The Department of Transport eyesight test requires the reading of a number plate from 67 feet, in good daylight, with spectacles if worn. First introduced in 1934, when there was hardly any traffic and few cars were capable of more than 60mph, it takes no account of conditions such as tunnel vision, colour blindness and other even more serious vision defects which could exist, or later develop and affect driving performance.

Mr King knew from his experience as a traffic policeman how vision defects could lead to potentially lethal accidents, and the evidence compiled in his survey confirmed it. While he was at the roadside conducting the survey, one driver almost ran into his crew-mate. "He claimed not to have seen him," says Mr King. "In fact, he could only read the number plate from about 12 feet. He was a young man, too — and there were many others like him."

He recalls another incident that involved Cambridgeshire Police. "One morning, in good daylight, on the A45 near Cambridge, a 35-year-old man driving to work hit a cyclist travelling in the same direction as himself. The cyclist was killed. The driver said he didn't see the cyclist," says Mr King. "But he had only partial vision in his right eye and hardly any at all in his left. He himself described his vision as 'like looking through net curtains'. He admitted he'd been having treatment since 1982, but hadn't stopped driving."

Only last month, a motorist who had such poor eyesight that he mistook the flashing lights of a police roadblock for an ambulance was fined £100 by Reigate magistrates. He was only stopped when police blocked him in.

"The Ministry says the current test is easy to conduct," says Mr King. "But they're basically worried that a change would cost them money. Yet what I've suggested would be self-financing."

In his Home Office report, PC King made a number of recommendations:

☐ A medical including a full eye test should be carried out before a licence is issued. The cost would be borne by the applicant, as with heavy goods and public service drivers.

☐ Details of the test should be electronically recorded on a "smart" card, and the results sent to the Driver and Vehicle Licence Centre (DVLC).

☐ Eyesight should be re-tested every two or three years, and the "smart" card and DVLC records updated.

☐ Driving licences should state if glasses are worn.

We are all supposed to tell the licensing authority if we think anything is wrong with us that might affect our driving ability, but who does? It would be like a turkey voting in favour of Christmas.

Other surveys, including one by opticians Miller and Santhouse, (an organisation with vested interests, but the survey was done in conjunction with local road safety officers), and another by the Guild of Experienced Motorists — an organisation without vested interests but with appropriate vision screening equipment — confirm Mr King's suggestion that many drivers have vision defects sufficient to warrant a visit to an optician. However, the current charges for eyesight tests hardly encourage such visits.

The eyesight requirement for HGV drivers is higher than that for car drivers — but how many companies test the vision of their sales representatives and other employees who regularly use company cars?

It would be in their best interests — and also in the best interests of their insurance companies — to encourage such tests.

Nobody knows how many drivers have defective vision, nor how many accidents are caused by poor eyesight. Although blood-alcohol level is checked, few people's eyes are tested when they are involved in an accident. And you can't ask a corpse to read a number plate at 67 feet.

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92J Turbo R [illegible]	£[illegible]
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GUARANTEED MOTOR CARS

ROLLS ROYCE AND BENTLEY CONTINUES ON PAGE 4

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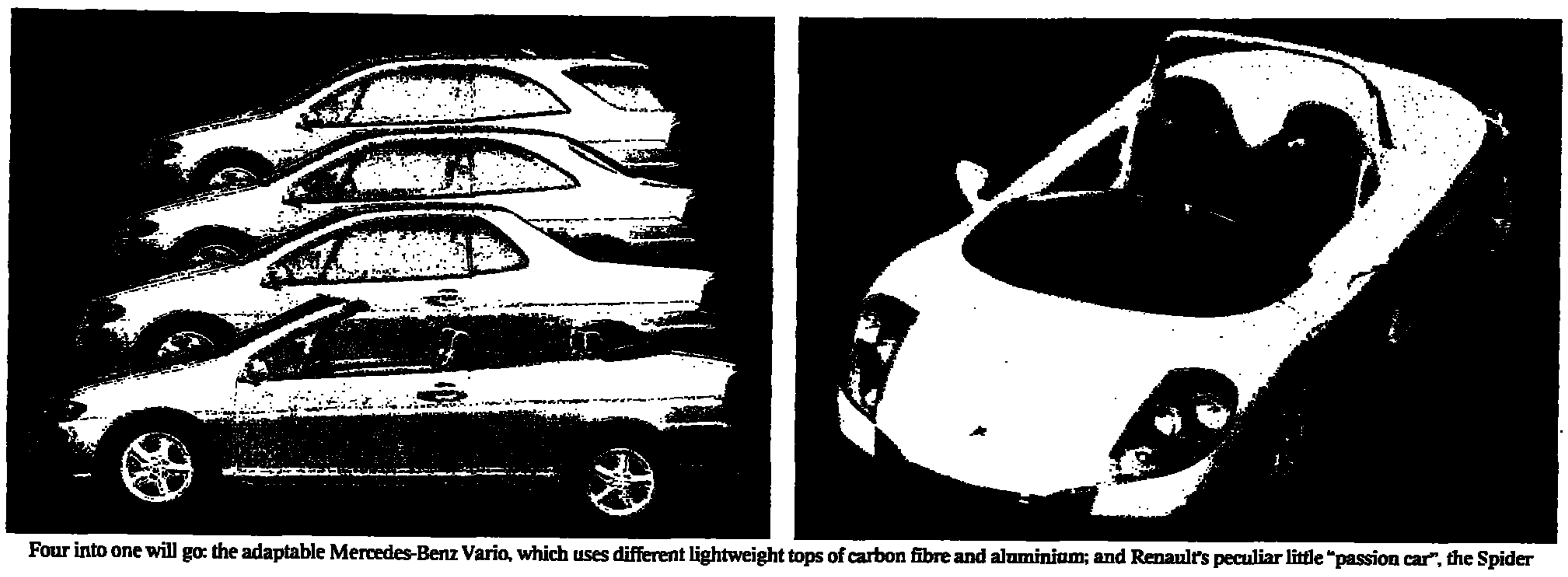
THE GENEVA MOTOR SHOW

Britain steals glory at 'feel-good' fiesta

Kevin Eason
surveys the party treats that makers brought to this week's Swiss showpiece



Four into one will go: the adaptable Mercedes-Benz Vario, which uses different lightweight tops of carbon fibre and aluminium; and Renault's peculiar little "passion car", the Spider

The "feel-good" factor that has so eluded John Major is around in abundance in the design studios of Europe's carmakers.

If style is a sign of confidence then the motor industry is booming, with radical designs on every stand at this week's Geneva Motor Show. Geneva is traditionally Europe's premier exhibition, the place where the carmakers come to meet each other and show off. This year they all brought something fast, something pretty or something dramatic.

Britain's MGF and Bentley Azure might have stolen the spotlight but Ferrari managed to bring the fastest and most furious car to the party. The new F50 is simply a monster, and the stunning red sweep of the curves signals that this beast needs careful handling.

Just check the statistics that flow from putting a new version of the 1990 Formula One race engine — an astonishing 4.7-litre V12 with five valves on each cylinder which can shove out 520 brake horse power — into that glorious bodyshell: 0-60mph in a shattering 3.7 seconds and a top speed of 202mph. This was Ferrari showing that when it comes to sports cars, the Maranello factory still sets the standards, with the Geneva car a celebration of nearly 50 years of racing success and beautiful road cars.

The engine is the roaring heart, but Ferrari has developed a chassis made entirely of carbon fibre with a rubber compound fuel tank, similar to those developed in aeronautical technology, mounted behind the driver but in front of the engine. Collectors will have to be determined and quick: the company plans to make only 349 cars. And the price? You have to ask the men at Maranello but if you haven't got £250,000 to spend you could be struggling.

You won't need as much for one of the cutest, if oddest, sports cars that will be on sale next year. Renault unveiled its Spider in Geneva, a peculiar mixture of quirky French design and futuristic technology described in its glossy brochure as a "passion car". What is a passion car? Apparently it is "a subtle and changing mix of unique sensations", a car "which procures the immediate yet durable thrill of flirting with perfection as you corner to the nearest millimetre with the right foot unleashing, as it squeezes the accelerator pedal, just the right amount of power." Quite.

There may not be too much unleashing in the early versions of this machine because it has no windscreen, just something called an aeroscreen which is supposed to deflect air over the driver and passenger. Unfortunately, that sounds not so much wind-in-the-hair as fly-in-the-teeth motoring.

The technology is clever, though, with the chassis all aluminium, making the car lighter and stronger, while the engine is the 2-litre F7R 710 that comes from Renault's Clio Williams special. No prices yet but the car goes into production at the end of the year.

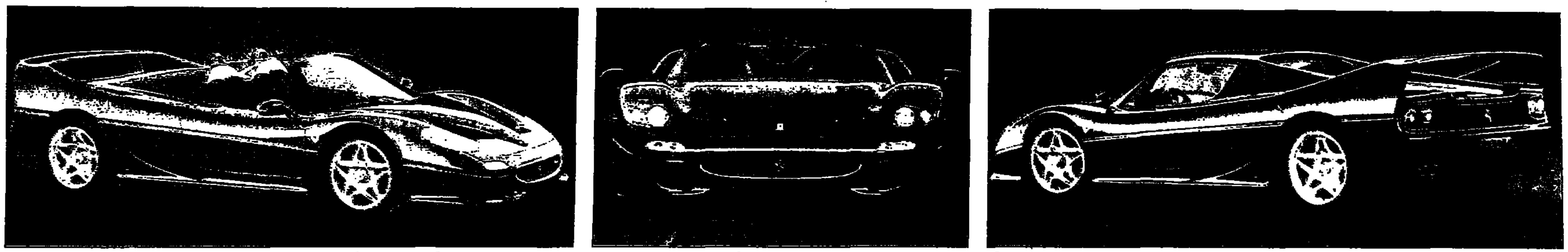
Further in the future and even more original was the Vario from Mercedes-Benz. The Germans think some motorists are confused about what sort of car they really want; they might need an estate one day but really prefer a saloon; on a sunny day, they might fancy a cabriolet; or a trip to the garden centre might better suit a pick-up. So Mercedes invented a car that is all of those.

The secret is a series of lightweight tops, made of carbon fibre and aluminium, which attach by electric magnets and a series of clips and locks. Each top can be fitted in a couple of minutes and away you go. Very clever but not due for production, says Mercedes.

Britain, though, stole the show, with the MGF attracting crowds of admirers anxious to see the first production MG for 15 years, including a group from the MG Car Club.

They took 12 cars — ranging from a vintage 18/80 and a 1949 TC to a 1964 MGB — on a two-day potter through France, some of the older models managing a 40mph trundle along the 700 miles from Calais to Geneva.

So the cars were there, the world's press was there and the television cameras were there. Only the top officials from Britain's Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) missed the show. Ernie Thompson, chief executive of the SMMT, missed his own cocktail party when he was delayed at a conference while Peter Ward, the president who resigned from Rolls-Royce recently, did not turn up. They missed a treat.



Three sides of the Ferrari F50, another triumph for the men from Maranello: powered by a new version of a Formula One engine, it is capable of 0-60mph in 3.7 seconds and a top speed of 202mph. Only 349 cars will be made

Bentley's blue period spawns a masterpiece

The new Azure is unlike any other car in the world, as **Kevin Eason** found out on a test drive

The Bentley Azure: if you can afford it, flaunt it

Long on luxury, short on economy: the 17-foot Azure manages only around 15 miles to the gallon — but who cares?

The feeling was just sheer, dry-mouthed terror: there I was at the wheel of a £215,000 car which was 6ft 2in wide, approaching an opening that would give me about 3in on either side.

And I was not alone. Most of the population of a small French village was standing at the roadside, waiting to see if this Englishman could make it without disaster.

At that moment, I just wanted to be home with my mum instead of driving the huge Bentley Azure.

It should have been the most sumptuous of experiences, sinking deep into the leather armchair, facing the gorgeous deep red leather fascia with its satin chrome knobs and dials, with the convertible hood down on a beautiful sunny day in the south of France for the first test drive of the new Azure. It's a tough job, but somebody has to do it.

The experience became a daunting one, though, as that long, long bonnet nosed out on to the road and I became aware of the enormous responsibility of driving a car worth 20 Ford Escorts.

Test driving the Azure bears no relationship with motoring as we mere mortals with mortgages and bank loans know it. This was not driving; I was simply guiding a huge vessel, like the captain of an ocean liner.

The bonnet was so long that guiding the nose through tight corners in Provence was more a matter of hope than good management. The bonnet went somewhere I couldn't see for for what seemed like minutes as the rest of the 17-foot long body followed. And the power under that bonnet was prodigious. The engine is the traditional Rolls-Royce 6.7-litre V8 with "sufficient" brake horse power, as the chaps from Crewe always have it. Actually, there is more than enough power in the Azure because pressing the throttle pedal to the floor launches the car like an Apollo rocket.

However, the 118 people this year with enough money to buy the most expensive and extravagant Bentley yet will hardly be roaring through the streets. They will want to be seen as they tootle along Nice's Promenade des Anglais; the Azure is definitely a case of having it and flaunting it.

Why not? Because Rolls-Royce has created a car which is as beautiful as it is extraordinary. The company has effectively taken the top off the Continental R, the model which told the world that Rolls-Royce was not a relic living on past glories but really could still make fine motor cars. The trick was to ensure that the hood did not become an encumbrance, spoiling the curve of the Continental's lines.

Rolls-Royce went to Pininfarina in Turin for help, and £20 million worth of investment later, the Azure was born.

At the press of a button, the hood releases and folds away inside the body within 30 seconds.

The bodyshells and hood are built in Turin and then shipped to Crewe for assembly. That means the Azure takes 15 weeks to make: a Nissan Micra from Washington, Tyne & Wear, takes 12.5 hours. To see what takes the time, just look at the exquisite dashboard, the glowing paintwork and the walnut veneer.

Simply, there is nothing like it anywhere in the motoring world. The most expensive Mercedes might be more technologically advanced and £100,000 cheaper but it cannot get near the tactile experience of a Rolls-Royce driver's seat. A Ferrari will go as fast but not so quietly, smoothly and comfortably that it is like travelling in your favourite armchair.

Trying to compare the Azure to any other car is pointless. So there is no rear legroom, the boot on a 17-foot long car is about the same size as a Ford Escort and it guzzles petrol. People who buy the Azure probably couldn't give two derivatives what the statistics are, good or bad.

According to Chris Woodwark, chief executive of Rolls-Royce, Azure buyers will probably have five cars in the garage already; the choice is between the Bentley or a yacht.

Woodwark, who chose the name for its associations with open motoring under blue skies, says: "The euphoria of this car is in the chrome and the leather, the feeling that the driver and passenger are being cossetted."

There is one thing the owner cannot have: an Azure in azure. Woodwark chose the name so late there was no time to get it into the paint shop.

Technical data:

Engine: 6.7-litre, V8 turbocharged with liquid-cooled intercooler and boost control. Power output figures not disclosed. Traction control and four-speed automatic gearbox. Automatic, electronic suspension control.

Performance: 0-60mph in 6.3 seconds, top speed 150mph, fuel consumption 15.2 mpg in combined town and motorway driving.

Insurance group: by negotiation only.

Magnificent interior: plush seats make it like travelling in your favourite armchair

NEWS IN BRIEF

Seat cuts price of Ibizas by £200

Seat has put a driver's airbag into its *Ibiza* range and cut prices by up to £200. The range starts with the 3-door Ibiza CL at £6,395, which can do 52 miles to the gallon and attracts an insurance rating of just 2.

Open house

If you don't know how it works, find out by visiting a car factory. Ford offers tours around its Dagenham factory in Essex where visitors can see a Fiesta being put together from its basic components all the way to its final test before going to the showroom. Contact 0181-526-4570.

Nissan move

Nissan has pitched prices of its new QX executive car hard against competition with the range, which offers a 2-litre V6 engine, starting at £16,495. Most popular model should be the £18,245 2.0V6 SE with anti-lock brakes and airbag.

Help for women

Women worried about "road rage" can get advice on how to handle angry drivers from the AA which has published a leaflet, available free at the organisation's shops. The AA says 8 per cent of women have suffered from "road rage" in other drivers.

VW voodoo

The Rolling Stones travelled on their first tour in a Volkswagen van but don't expect Mick Jagger to make the latest concert tour in the back of a VW Golf, even if the German company is the sponsor. VW is marking the tour with special edition Golfs, between £11,000 and £16,000, complete with logos from the band's latest *Voodoo Lounge* album.

Celebration time

The Aston Martin Owners' club celebrates its diamond jubilee this year. The highlight is expected to be an attempt on May 26 by one of its senior members, Tom May, who bought his first Aston for just £60 in 1935, to set an 80-80-80 record in his 1952 DB2: to drive in his eightieth year, 80 miles in 80 minutes at the Millbrook track in Bedfordshire.

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هكذا من الاصل

Vaughan Freeman on a car that can be adapted easily to suit individual driver demands

Flexible concept: the Opel Maxx, available as a two-door or four-door, can be reshaped as a convertible, an estate, a sports buggy or a pick-up

All things to all men

Drivers fed up with the look of their ageing banger can now have it revamped and remodelled into a fresher, younger model, thanks to the motoring equivalent of the plastic surgeon's face-lift.

Research among British drivers shows that above all they want a car that nobody else drives — and that means tailoring the vehicle to fit in exactly with their own individual needs.

The Henley Centre, a market research institute, found that nearly 50 per cent of drivers want a car nobody else owns, and that younger drivers in particular like the idea of being the only one on their block driving their kind of car.

In response, Vauxhall's sister company, Opel, has come up with the Maxx, a concept car that can be reshaped to cope with the changing demands of the motorist's lifestyle. The Maxx means car owners who start their young, unburdened motoring career with a convertible need no longer trade it in for an estate when children arrive, and then swap it again for an off-roader or a van as motoring needs change.

The ultra-short Maxx, made of aluminium, is built using aircraft-style construction and changeable body panels in a modular design so that the car can be tailored to order, and then changed in later life. The same car could start life as a two-door sports buggy, convert into a single-seat delivery van or pick-up, and change again, by replacing body panels and seats on the basic platform, into a four-seat car.

And it's small. Even the longer four-door version, at 3.7 metres in length, is shorter than the current Corsa, and the two-door model is a fraction under three metres long. There are two proposed engines, a 30bhp and a 50bhp allowing a top speed of up to 95mph.

Richard Ruzzin, Opel's chief designer, says: "The Maxx design allows buyers to design the end-product themselves and to alter it in the course of time. Based on the knowledge that only one or two people normally use a car for urban journeys, the two-door Maxx is designed as a two-seater car. But if the children want to come along to the shops, the parents simply fold down the optional rear bench seat. The four-door version has even more space, plus seats for four and their luggage."

HOW DOES IT WORK

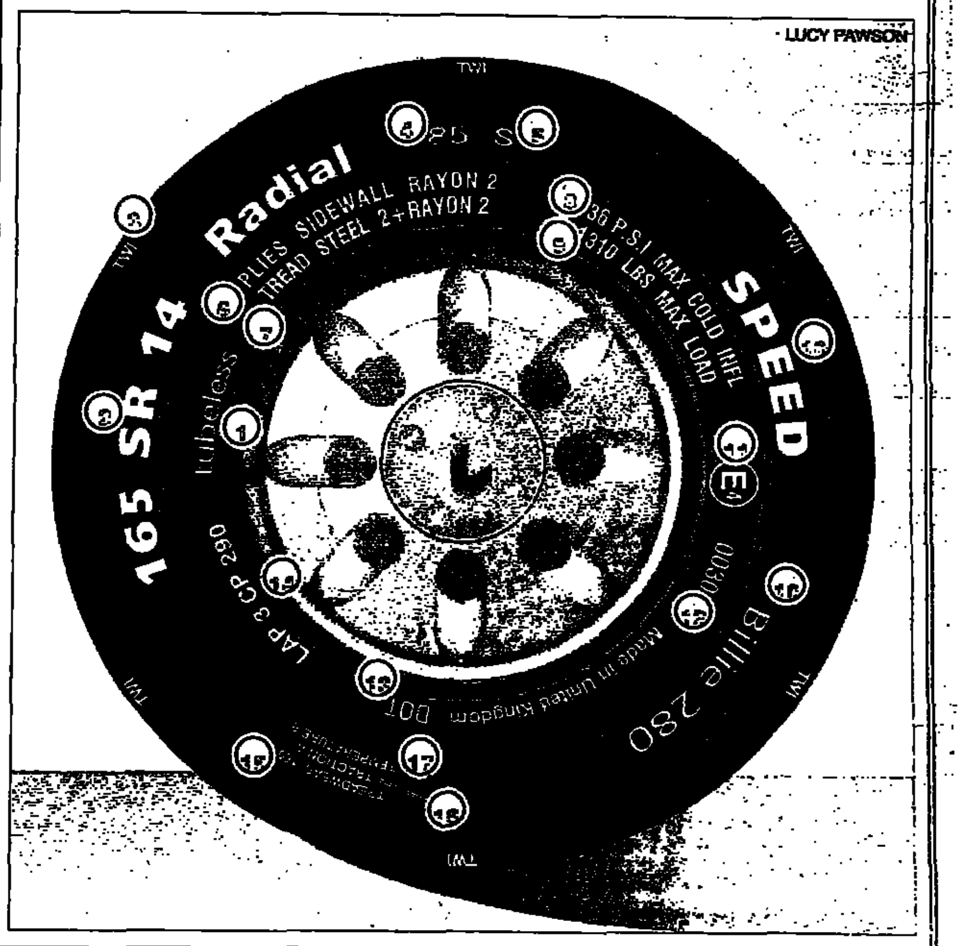
The markings on a tyre

TYRES are covered in writing that is a mystery to most. In fact, it contains crucial information as to the maximum speed at which the tyre should be run, the weight of vehicle it can carry and how it conforms to safety requirements.

This example is a tyre made for the American market. European tyres may not have so many symbols but may also include in the outer ring the letters M & S, meaning the winter-type tread is suitable for mud and snow.

1. Construction: tubed or tubeless.
2. Size: 165 is the width in millimetres; S is the speed rating (113mph); R is for radial and 14 is the rim diameter in inches. The size designation is sometimes followed by a second figure, such as 165/80. The 80 refers to the profile and means the tyre's height is 80 per cent of its width, the usual profile for family cars. If the number is missing the profile is assumed to be 80.
3. TWI stands for tread wear indicators, which show when the pattern is worn down to the legal minimum of 1.6mm.
4. Load index: related to the car's weight and speed.
5. Speed rating: S indicates 113mph. Other ratings include: Q for 100mph, V for 150mph, VR and ZR tyres for 150mph-plus.
6, 7. Construction details (not required in UK).
8. 36 PSI max cold inflation: the maximum inflation in lbs per square inch when cold. Higher pressures are permitted in Europe.
9. Maximum load: 1,310lbs per wheel (lower rates apply in Europe).
10. Maker's name.
11. EU safety standard: on British tyres the mark begins E11, indicating that the UK is the country in which design type approval was obtained.
12. Number of the approval certificate.
13, 14. DOT: Indicates approval by the US Department of Transport; the number that follows is the US tyre identification number.
15, 16, 17. Applicable to US only. Gradings for wear, traction and temperature.

LUCY PAWSON

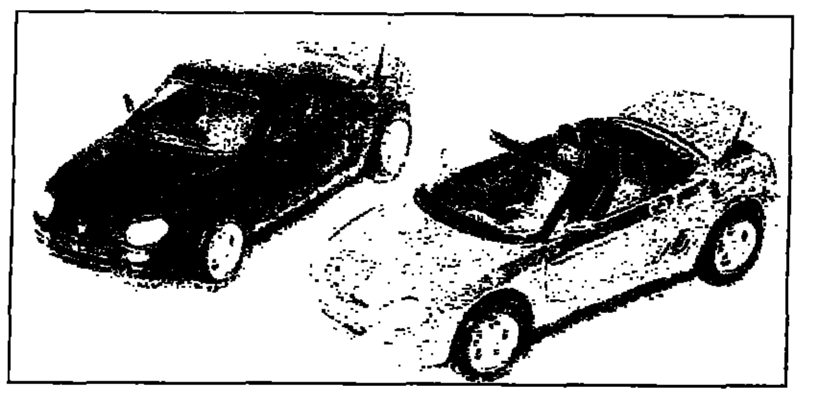


Scale model launched alongside new MG

NO NEED to dream any longer. The new MGF, the snazzy little two-seater launched this week by Rover, really can be yours . . . and for just £25 (Kevin Eason writes).

Well, actually it is not a real MGF, just a scale model made by Corgi Classics, the toymaker based in Leicester. These, though, are toys for grown-ups, with every detail of the new MG copied in precise detail by Corgi's designers, who spent 18 months working with Rover stylists to make sure their model was also ready for launch this week.

Corgi's team had unprecedented access to the MGF when it was officially secret and locked away from the gaze of even senior Rover managers. The deal between the two was that Corgi could release its 1/18th scale model at the same time as Rover took the covers off the real thing.



The Corgi Classics version of the MGF: an exact replica for £25

Colin Summerbell, Corgi Classics' sales manager, says: "We invested £100,000 tooling up the factory to make the MGF so it was an important launch for us, too." The Corgi MGF will go on sale in August, the same time as the full-size car, with sales expected to be about 100,000 worldwide, 80,000 of them in Britain.

The chances of youngsters getting their hands on these toys seem remote, though. Mr Summerbell estimates that the cars increase in value fourfold in about ten years as collectors squirrel them away with other Corgi classics.

Corgi made its first MG, the MGA, in 1957, which then cost just three shillings (15p).

More than 650,000 were sold up to 1965 when the model was dropped for the sexier MGB GT of the time, which came into the shops at six shillings and ninepence.

The last MG to be made by Corgi was the 1953 MGTF, which came out ten years ago at £4.

The Corgi MG to own is clearly the original MGA. If you have one today, then the investment was worthwhile: *Ramsey's Guide*, which estimates collector prices, says the MGA could change hands today at prices in excess of £70.

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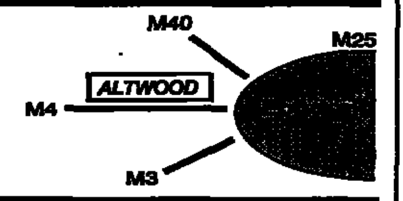

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94L TDi S Aegean Blue, 15k £19,950
94M (95 Mod) TDi S Carigada Green, 7k £22,450
94L TDi S Carigada Green, 17k £19,450
94L TDi 3Dr [illegible] Black, 13k £17,950
94L TDi 3Dr A Coniston Green, 17k £18,950
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هكذا من الأصل

Maurice Glover reports on the Japanese manufacturer using its British factory to tackle Ford's market-leader

Toyota declares war on the Mondeo

Plans to increase the showroom appeal of Toyota's bestselling saloon and hatchback range are likely to fuel a new round of price-cuts. In a move to pitch key versions of the Carina E model below the market-leading Ford Mondeo, the Japanese company has revamped its contender for family and fleet sales to be more luxurious and up to £600 cheaper.

Though Toyota achieved record sales — 57,677 — in Britain last year, Graham Smith, its marketing director, said a "better deal" programme had been designed to counter the consumer's continued lack of confidence in the economy as well as the aggressive pricing of the upper-medium-sector Ford.

As 1.8-litre versions of the Carina were launched, Mr Smith said: "We have a significant share of the fleet segment, which we wish to expand. We have decided to tackle Ford head-on with both pricing and specification levels."

The route by which he hopes to achieve this involves lowering the £400 price premium of hatchback cars over their saloon equivalents to £150. Pricing of saloon models has also been set to undercut respective Ford-badged competitors, and equipment on all versions has been upgraded.

The 1.6-litre GS hatchback, for example, is now £278 cheaper than the model it supersedes, but when its extra specification is taken into account, the GS's cost of £12,635 represents added value of more than £700.

"For all that, we have set the retail price to be £65 below that of the equivalent Mondeo," Mr Smith said. "Our objective is simple: to establish our car as the benchmark in its sector with a package which is more competitive than that of the Ford.

"Other examples of the realignment include the CD, now £299 cheaper despite having enhanced equipment levels, but £830 below the equivalent Mondeo at its revised price of £13,100. And we have cut the price of our GL diesel by £600."

At £11,111, the latest 1.6-litre Carina Xi includes a driver's airbag, headlamp-levelling, power steering, central locking and in-car entertainment as standard. It is joined by a GS, which is priced from £12,485 and offers remote locking, an alarm and engine immobiliser, power sunroof and windows and extra instrumentation.

In CDX form and with the new 1.8-litre engine under its bonnet, the Derby-built Carina has anti-lock braking, heated front screen, headlamp washers and a CD player in its walnut-finished fascia panel, for £15,820.

Last year, Toyota produced 85,000 Carinas. With 75 per cent being dispatched to 16 markets across Europe, the company became Britain's fourth-biggest exporter of fully built-up cars. After the export of its 100,000th car, it announced that output will rise to 90,000 units this year.

British registrations of the Carina reached 22,584 last year, and sales of the model, described as instrumental in Toyota's recent expansion, are expected to reach 24,000 during 1995.

Mr Smith said: "The Carina has just been voted the best fleet buy, and that was before it was available with its latest lean-burn engine, which we claim makes the best even better."

Built at the Toyota factory at Deeside, North Wales, the 1.8-litre unit is claimed to offer diesel-like economy of more than 57mpg, 0 to 60mph acceleration of 11.7 seconds and a top speed of 118mph.

Computer link opens up buying from home

"HELLO John, got a new motor . . .?". The Arfur Daley "lovely little runner" school of second-hand car dealing could soon be consigned to the scrapyard.

Autodial, the first telephone-based car buying and selling service in the country, uses computer technology so you can make a purchase without moving from the couch, Kathryn Knight writes.

The seven-days-a-week service operates from Brockley, southeast London. The buyer dials through to a switchboard operator who takes exact details of the kind of car sought — say a yellow Golf GTi for less than £7000, or a diesel hatchback in the south London area.

The operator then matches the details against the database, which contains a list of cars held by dealers. After dredging up all the yellow Golf GTis or south London diesel hatchbacks available, the operator then sends a list of all possibilities to the buyer's home by first-class post and the customer can contact the dealers.

The company was set up by Alistair Hughes, a former management consultant, after he saw the format working in America. "The idea is that rather than perusing hundreds of random cars through trade mags, you can use our service to refine that information," says Mr Hughes.

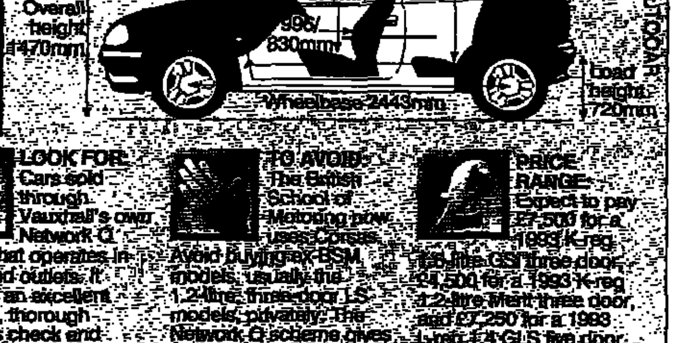
The service is free for buyers. Traders, of which there are currently about 100, pay £495 to place 50 cars a month on the database. The database is updated daily. "I think this is where the service has an advantage," says Mr Hughes. "We reprogramme the database every day, whereas a magazine is weekly and ads have to be in a few days before publication."

Autodial cannot guarantee the condition of cars, but traders on the books are visited and inspected by trained company staff, and the lists posted to clients highlight cars which have been inspected by a motoring organisation.

●***Autodial (071-635 7780) is open 9am-9pm weekdays, 10am-4pm weekends.***

USED CAR BRIEF

VAUXHALL CORSA
Launched only in the Spring of 1993, the Corsa was so well received that it became the best seller in its class throughout Europe that year. Now Corsas are coming on to the used market in numbers and prices might seem high for a second-hand small vehicle. But the interior is deceptively roomy, and anyone who has not driven a modern small car might well be surprised at the Corsa's comfort, and lack of rattling and noise.



GOOD NEWS: The arrival of the Corsa blended forward-looking design with the reliability of the Vauxhall Nova power train on which it was based. Spare parts are plentiful, the Corsa is easy to work on and for a small car carries even larger, taller occupants with comfort at least in the front seats.

BAD NEWS: The 1.2-litre model is slow off the mark, while at the other extreme the fast GSi is a boy-racer favourite and likely to have had a hard life in the hands of a Formula One fantasist.

LOOK FOR: Cars sold through Vauxhall's own Network Q system that operates in franchised outlets. It provides an excellent warranty, thorough pre-sales check and availability of Vauxhall's Choices 1,2,3 finance scheme.

TO AVOID: The British School of Motoring now uses Corsas. Avoid buying ex-BSM models, usually the 1.2-litre, three-door LS models, privately. The Network Q scheme gives special clutch cover and two-year parts and mechanical guarantee on ex-driving school models.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay £7,500 for a 1993 K-reg 1.6-litre GSi three door, £4,500 for a 1993 K-reg 1.2-litre Merit three door, and £7,250 for a 1993 L-reg 1.4 GLS five door.

SAFETY RATING: The Corsa is too recent an arrival to appear in the latest Department of Transport crash ratings, but Vauxhall parent company General Motors, intent on luring into the Corsa those motorists normally found in bigger cars, insisted on big-car safety items such as side-impact bars, and availability of anti-lock brakes and airbag.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1993 1.2-litre Corsa will cost a 55-year old professional living in Winchester, male or female, with full no claims bonus, £75.85 a year fully comprehensive. A 22-year old male with one year's no claims bonus, living in South London, will pay £821.25 for fully comprehensive cover, and a 22-year old female living in South London with one year's no claims will pay £554.25.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT): clutch assembly £85; full exhaust £160; front dampers £85; rear dampers £60; radiator (exchange) £200; starter motor £80 (exchange); Tyre £50.

OVERALL: Slightly more expensive than equivalent second-hand models such as the Ford Fiesta, Rover Metro or Peugeot 106. The mix of three and five-door variants, plus six trim levels and 1.2, 1.4 (in eight and 16 valve form) and 1.6-litre, 16-valve petrol engines, plus 1.5-litre diesel engine, means there's a Corsa for everyone.

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	Mar-95	Feb-95	Chge
Volvo 850 2.0 20V GLT Estate	17395	17395	0
Subaru Legacy 2.0 4 cam Estate	16795	16950	-0.92
Saab 9001 16V Convertible	18095	18095	0
Vauxhall Frontera 2.3 5dr	15250	15450	-1.30
Honda Prelude 2.0 2dr	15350	15550	-1.29
Ford Granada 2.9 Ghia Auto Estate	15295	15350	-0.36
Vauxhall Omega 2.0 GLS Auto 4dr	15750	16450	-4.26
Nissan Patrol GR SLX 5dr	16995	16695	1.79
Mitsubishi Sigma Auto 4dr	19795	19750	0.22
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic Auto 4dr	18395	18395	0.00
Audi 100 2.8E Quattro Saloon	18450	18450	0.00
BMW 320i 4dr Auto	18195	18295	-0.55
BMW 525i 4dr Auto	22450	22750	-1.32
Citroen XM 2.0si Turbo Estate Auto	16095	16095	0.00
Ford Maverick 2.7 GLX T/D 5dr	16095	16450	-2.16
Honda Legend 4dr Saloon Auto	24195	24500	-1.25
Isuzu Trooper 3.2i 5dr	17795	17650	0.82
Land Rover Discovery Diesel 3dr	17895	17595	1.70
Mazda Xedos 6 2.0i V6 SE 4dr Auto	18095	18095	0.00
Mazda RX-7 Turbo	23550	23595	-0.19
Mercedes Benz E220 Auto 4dr	23095	23750	-2.76
Mitsubishi Shogun V6 5dr 2972cc	22650	22650	0.00
Peugeot 605 V6 SVE 4dr Auto	16195	16195	0.00
Renault Espace 2.0 RT Estate 5dr	15950	15895	0.34
Renault Safrane 3.0 RXE V6 5dr Auto	17550	17250	1.73
Rover Sterling Saloon 4dr Auto	18750	18895	-0.77
Saab New 900 2.5 V6 SE 5dr	18850	18850	0.00
Saab 9000 CSE 2.3 Eco power 5dr	21295	21295	0.00
Subaru Impreza Turbo 2000	15595	15595	0.00
Toyota New Camry 3.0 V6 GX 4dr Auto	19150	19295	-0.76
Toyota Landcruiser Diesel II Turbo 3dr	19095	19150	-0.29
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i 16V CD Estate	17295	17795	-3.89
Volkswagen Corrado VR6 3dr Coupe	18750	18850	1.07
Volkswagen New Golf 2.8 VR 5dr	16850	16795	0.32
Volvo 940 Diesel GLE Turbo 4dr	18495	18495	0.00
Audi New 80 2.6E Estate 5dr	15550	15695	-0.93
BMW 520i Touring Estate Auto	19350	20250	-4.45
Daihatsu Fourtrak Deisel TDX Ind	15850	15595	1.63
Mercedes Benz E250 D 4dr	21995	22750	-3.32
Land Rover Discovery 3.9 V8i S 5dr	20350	20450	0.49
Isuzu Trooper Diesel 3.1 Citation 5dr	21795	21550	1.10
Saab CDE 2.0i Eco power 4dr	18850	18850	0.00
Honda New Accord 2.3i SR 4dr Auto	15150	15495	-2.23
Chrysler Jeep Cherokee 4.0 Ltd SE	20395	21000	-2.89
Chrysler Cherokee 2.5 sport 5dr	15295	15750	-2.89
Mercedes Benz C200 Elegance	20750	20695	0.26

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices.
HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by ***CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

FIGURES for new car sales in February, which showed a 4.54 per cent increase over the same month last year, were not sufficient to please big dealers.

Alan Pulham, director of the National Franchised Dealers' Association, said the figures indicated that the private buyer had still not returned to showrooms in any numbers.

He explained: "Consumer confidence has not reached the level where he or she feels confident enough to make the major investment in a new car."

He said the retail motor industry needed to persuade the Government of the merits of a subsidy scheme for scrapping older, less environmentally-acceptable cars such as those introduced in France, Spain, Denmark and Greece.

A similar scheme is due to be introduced in Ireland in July.

New car registrations last month totalled 152,329. It was the first month to show an increase since last September. Imported cars took a 60.52 per cent share of the market.

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190E 2l auto. March 91. 47,000 miles. 2 owners. FSH, almandine red metallic. Offers near £10,995. Tel 01483 222572

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190D H reg. 2.6, maroon, cream interior. 76,000 miles. 1 owner. e/sunroof, FSH. £12,000. Tel 0782 515067 (eve).

190E Auto LE 1993K. 18,000 miles FSH. Azurro Blue. ESR. EW (4). A/w. Drivers air bag. Walnut dash. £16,750. 0206 844299/ 0850 558374.T

190E 2.6 auto in Almandine red 92J. 25,000 mls. spline suspension. 8 hole alloys. 1 owner. FSH. £17,950. Tel 01672 21049 or 0860 911969

190E 2.6 Auto. Oct 92. 24k. FMBSH. Met Grey. Sports line susp. ABS. E/w. ESR. alloys. 10 disc CD. remote alarm. taxed £19,450 081 467 5195

190 E 2.0 Auto. 92/K. White/Blue int. 1 owner. FMBSH, ex cond. ABS, stereo. ESR + w. £11,500 0949 20927

230E Auto 1992 (J). Signal red. Elec sunroof/windows. 26,000 miles. £17,800 0635 41897 Private. No canvassers

230 TE auto. '88 E. anthracite grey. 92K mls. ESR. alloys. alarm. history. cruise. good cond. Pvte sale. £8,750. (0121) 449 4019 (H)/428 31[illegible]

230TE Auto. 92 (J). grey/cloth int., air con. pioneer radio cassette. FSH. 1 owner. £18,760 o.n.o. 081 876 7444

230 TE 1991. White, black interior. 47,000 miles. FSH. Air con. 1 owner. Private sale. £16,800. 0932 780794.

230 TE 1991. White, black interior. 47,000 miles. FSH. Air con. 1 owner. Private sale. £17,850. 0932 780794.

230 TE 1989. smoke silver. auto. only 82K mls. immac cond.. 2 onrs. private sale £13,250. Tel 0462 437407 or 0860 366204

280 SL 1985. H/S tops. gold/lthr. 81,000 mls. history. central locking. EW. original condition. £13,950. 0656 861166.

280TE Estate Auto 93. Burgundy. 8-Hole Alloys. a/bag. 23,000mls. Fantastic value. £24,995. Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

300CE 90H. Blue/black. Cream leather. sports lined. alloys. immaculate condition. MBFSH. 60,000 miles. £20,780. 0202 478424(h) 897098(o)

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300CE 93K Black/black leather. elec seats. walnut. 8 holes. 19,000mls. £29,995. 0494 681138

300CE 24V 91J. Blk/blk hide. 5 spd auto. sportline. a/c. cruise. r/stereo. 15K. £27,995. Bramshaw 0202 396342

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300SL Black metallic. rear seats. cruise control. only 40,000 miles. £20,995. Stratstone of Mayfair. 071 629 4404 or 0585 229540

300 SL Sept 1992. (K). red. 1 owner. 9,000 miles. FSH. rear seat. 8 hole alloys. £42,950. (0625) 828613 (H)/617791 (O).

300SL 24V 92K. Blue black/ mushroom hide. 8 holes. OTG. r/stereo. 20k miles. £47,995. Bramshaw 0202 396342

260E
1991, J, carnaine red, 1 previous owner, 25,000 mls, FSH, cloth interior, no air/con, auto, ABS, EW, PAS, sunroof, rad/cass, c/locking, £19,500. Ex managing director's car.
Contact James on 01329 832345 (9-5). Private sale.

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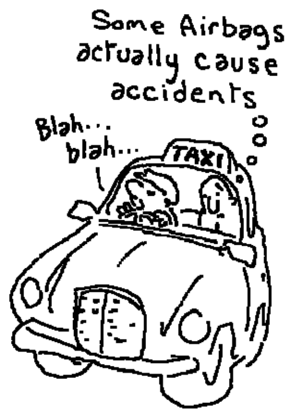
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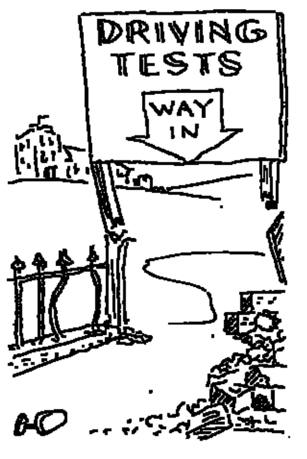

GED MELLING

60 years on: the limit we all love to hate

Jonathan Sale toasts the diamond jubilee of the omnipresent 30mph sign

"A fool at 40 is a fool indeed": the slogan that tried to slow the nation as signs for the new limit were put up in 1935. And the sophisticated method then used by the police to halt speeding motorists

30
THIS IS NOT A POLICE CAR

Signs of the times: workers at the Royal Label Factory in Stratford-upon-Avon with the warnings they made in huge numbers for local authorities. Right, a notice many put in their cars to reassure nervous drivers

Happy birthday, speed limit! Sixty years old tomorrow — and still the 30mph sign remains a flexible concept to the average *motorist*.

It was a good year for motoring legislation, 1935. The Transport Minister was Leslie Hore-Belisha, who gave his name to the Belisha Beacon introduced a year earlier. The day after imposing the speed limit in built-up areas, he brought in the driving test. At first this was voluntary, which rather reduced its impact; anyway it did not apply to existing drivers. But there was no escaping the speed limit.

Observing it must have been tricky for drivers of cars without speedometers, which did not become compulsory until 1937. A limousine I once saw in a motor musem had its speedo installed not on the dashboard but in the back; presumably a sharp tap on the glass partition told the chauffeur he was speeding.

The new limit was at least better than the 2mph demanded by the "Red Flag Act", alias the Locomotives on Highways Act of 1865, which covered the motoring pioneers. When that became law a self-propelled vehicle could well have been a 15-tonne traction engine powering a 30-tonne load, so it made sense that such leviathans had to be in the charge of three operators: one to steer, one to stoke the boiler and one to walk 60 yards ahead with a red flag and soothe any worried horses. It was just as well, if only for the convenience of the man striding ahead, that even on an open country road the limit was 4mph.

The Act was amended in 1878 so that the advance guard needed to be a mere 20 yards in front, with the flag becoming optional. This was of little consolation to the owners of the first motor cars and the nippy three-tonne steam runabouts. In 1896, the "Emancipation Act" allowed drivers to do away with the two ancillary staff and raised the top speed to a spanking 14mph (cut back by the Local Government Board to 12mph).

The first photographic speed trap, which produced several snapshots "to prove the pace of autocars", was tested by Paris gendarmes in 1901. On this side of the Channel, though, the technology consisted of pairs of bobbies with stopwatches.

In the face of this persecution, the motoring organisations hit back with crack teams of cyclists with red flags to warn of speed traps. Out of these patrols grew the Automobile Association; by failing to give their customary salute to vehicles bearing the badge, the AA motorcyclists tipped off members about a police presence ahead.

In 1903, the limit was set at 20mph for both town and rural areas: Despite the appearance of cars which could — and did — clock up several times that figure, it remained in force for almost three decades.

In 1930, the legal brakes were taken off completely and the speedometer could do what it wanted. For country roads, that largely remained the case until the blanket imposition of the 70mph limit in 1967. For built-up areas, the good times lasted only until 1935, and the 30mph limit that has been with us ever since.

Trying to enforce it in 1995 involves speed traps, police cameras, humps in the road and advertising campaigns which remind us that any pedestrian we hit at 40mph is unlikely to survive. And those still do not sufficiently inhibit our accelerators.

DR DASHBOARD

Staying awake at the wheel

Q Driving is so tough these days that I constantly worry about falling asleep at the wheel. How often does it happen?

A Too often, according to motorway police who say that tired drivers cause more accidents than drunks. Thames Valley Police blamed 75 per cent of *M40* crashes on *fatigue* among motorists who drive too fast and too long.

Q But I have to cover long distances for my job and worry that I won't get there on time.

A One in ten motorists drives for four hours at a stretch, but they should remember it is better to arrive in one piece than not to arrive at all. Tell yourself that time is irrelevant and concentrate on feeling well and in control of the car.

Q That doesn't shorten the journey. I still have to travel the long distance.

A So plan better. Set off earlier and take a route with a couple of stops. Stay overnight somewhere to break up the longest journeys and do not indulge in big meals with wine. Eat lightly and take some exercise. An early morning walk or jog could do wonders for the system.

Q That's all very well but sometimes tiredness just overwhelms me when I least expect it.

A So deal with it straightaway. You will soon know how tired you are if your concentration wanders. At worst, you will suffer the "nodding dog" syndrome as the eyelids droop and the head starts to fall forward. Wind down the window for fresh air and turn down the heater, and pull over as soon as possible. Go to a service station, take a walk, relax, drink tea or coffee.

Q Isn't that just postponing the inevitable and the tiredness will start all over again?

A Could be, so have plenty of emergency anti-sleep back-up. Take some suckable sweets that will keep your jaw occupied for a *few minutes*: the sugar shot should help give you a temporary boost. Try not to dehydrate, because that will also cause tiredness: take *plenty of water or sugary* drinks (they will also force you to stop for the lavatory).

Q Anything else I can do, especially if I don't want to ruin my teeth with sticky sweets?

A Yes. Try *flexing your* neck and arm muscles and generally keeping your body lively. Better still, invest in some music tapes so that you can sing-along-a-motorway; tap your fingers, wiggle toes and wriggle your bottom in time with the tunes.

Q Any suggestions what sort of music would be best? I read that music affects the mood.

A Well, don't forget you want something to keep you awake. The doctor prescribes anything by Robert Palmer, ZZ Top, Meatloaf, the Beach Boys and Tchaikovsky (1812 overture recommended). Why not try a karaoke? Ignore the funny looks from everyone else on the road. Avoid Perry Como, Manuel's Music of the Mountains, and Leonard Cohen (you may not want to arrive after listening to him). But if you really want to stay awake, listen to Des O'Connor: you'll grit your teeth all the way home.

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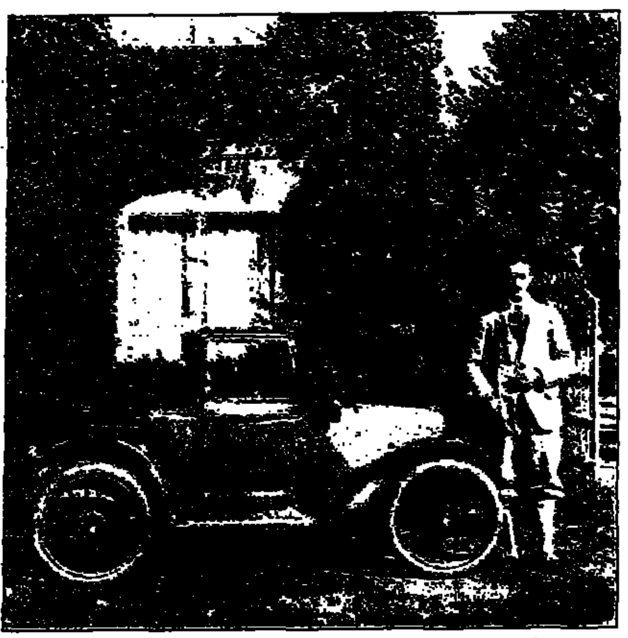
'The Austin Seven was important not only in its own right but as the ancestor of Jaguar, Lotus, BMW and Datsun'

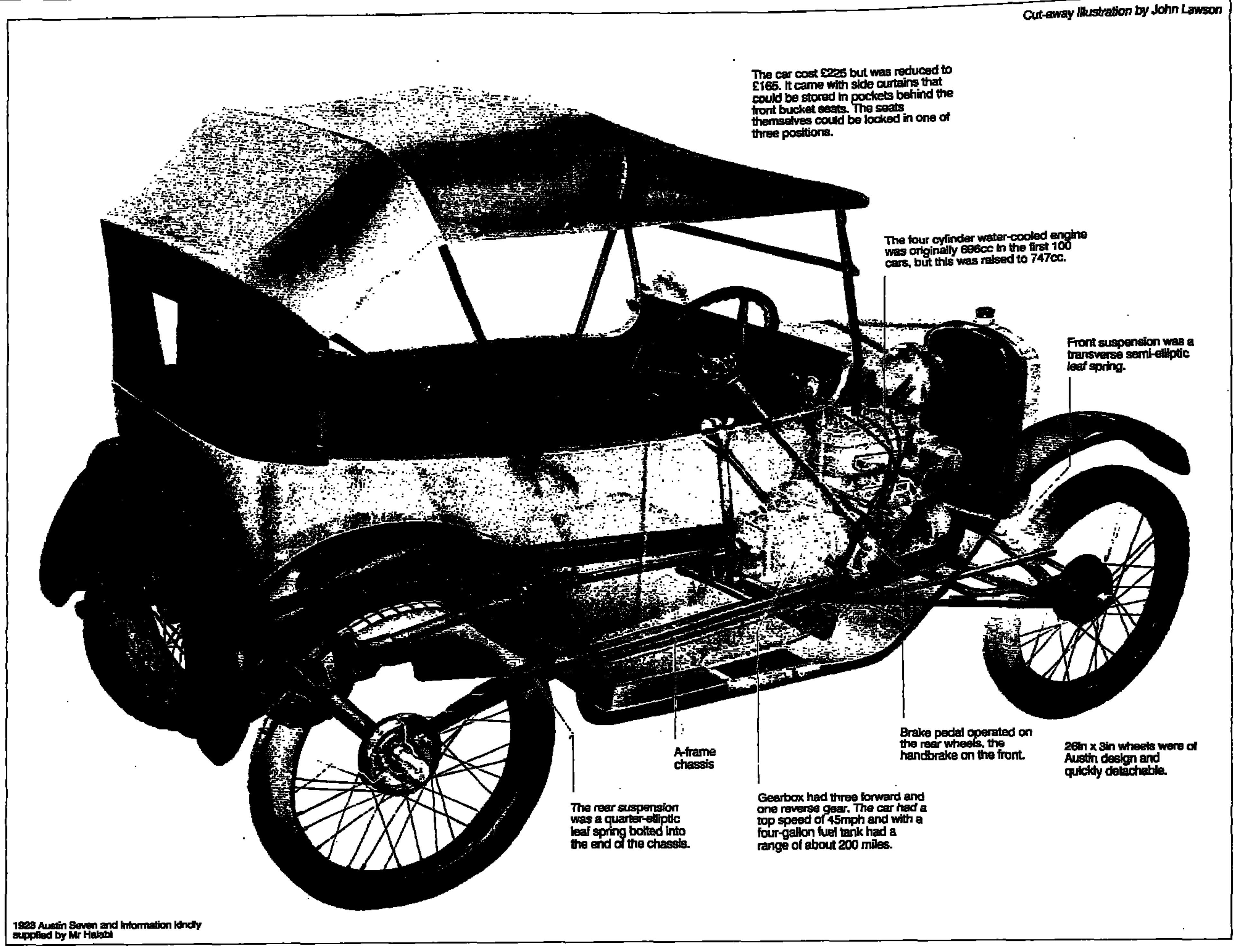
The first motor for the millions

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

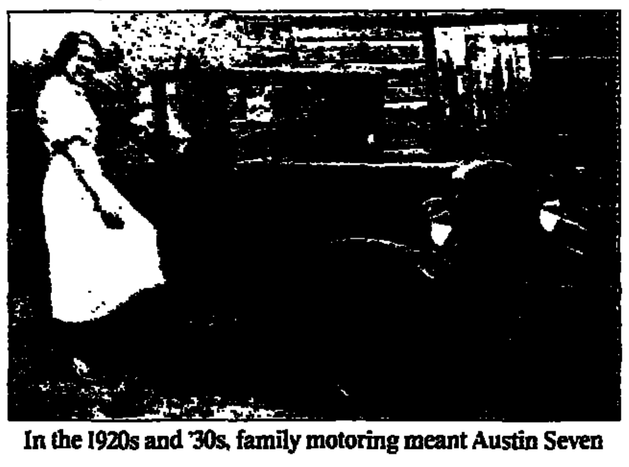
continues his series on a dozen cars that helped to make Britain great



One of the first 1924 Austin Sevens, bought by E.J. Vardon, at the village of Hawkhurst in Kent


Cut-away illustration by John Lawson
The car cost £225 but was reduced to £165. It came with side curtains that could be stored in pockets behind the front bucket seats. The seats themselves could be locked in one of three positions.
The four cylinder water-cooled engine was originally 696cc in the first 100 cars, but this was raised to 747cc.
Front suspension was a transverse semi-elliptic leaf spring.
A-frame chassis
Brake pedal operated on the rear wheels, the handbrake on the front.
26in x 3in wheels were of Austin design and quickly detachable.
The rear suspension was a quarter-elliptic leaf spring bolted into the end of the chassis.
Gearbox had three forward and one reverse gear. The car had a top speed of 45mph and with a four-gallon fuel tank had a range of about 200 miles.
1923 Austin Seven and information kindly supplied by Mr Halabi

Herbert Austin, above right, with a line-up of his racing Sevens and drivers in 1923. Far right, Malcolm Campbell "at speed", breaking records in an Austin Seven at Daytona Beach, Florida in 1931



In the 1920s and '30s, family motoring meant Austin Seven

Herbert Austin, along with William Morris, was one of the great architects of the British motor industry, mass-producing cars from the early 1920s onwards. Unlike Morris, Austin had an important career in the motor business before a single car bore his name. As general manager of the Wolseley Sheep-Shearing Machine Co of Birmingham, Austin built two experimental three-wheelers in the 1890s and designed a series of horizontal-engined Wolseleys, which were made from 1900 to 1905.

The first Austin car was made in 1906 and the company flourished up to the end of the First World War. But an attempt to concentrate on one model, the relatively large Twenty, brought Austin almost to disaster, and a new, smaller car was urgently needed.

Sir Herbert Austin, as he had become in 1917, selected a bright 17-year-old draughtsman, Stanley Edge, to help him to develop a new design. The car which most impressed them was the Peugeot Quadrilette, and the Austin Seven owed a great deal to the French car. In particular, Austin was impressed that the engine, though tiny, had four cylinders, when nearly all rivals used the rougher-running twins. The Peugeot's A-frame was also followed, with the apex at the front, to which was anchored a transverse leaf spring and two quarter-elliptic leaf springs at the rear.

An improvement over the Peugeot, and rare on a cheap car, were the four wheel brakes. Until 1930 they were not coupled, those on the front being operated by hand, and on the rear by the pedal.

The Austin Seven went into production in spring 1923. The first 100 cars had an engine capacity of 696cc, but this was raised to 747cc, at which it stayed until the end of production. Power was a modest 10bhp but, with a low overall weight of 800lb, the top speed was 45mph. Its great appeal was that it was a proper car, with four cylinders, a conventional gearbox, shaft drive and seating for four. This was a great improvement over the motorcycle and sidecar, which cost about the same as the Seven — originally £225, but quickly dropped to £165.

The clutch was an in-or-out affair. The brake drums were hardly adequate to stop even so light a car, and the front brakes were less powerful than those at the rear, the reverse of the ideal position. It was said that bad drivers were thrilled to be able to drive it at all, and good drivers pleased to be able to do it properly.

At first, the Seven was made in open form, known as the Chummy, but a metal saloon was added in 1926, and sports and racing models soon appeared. Traders were provided with a 2.5cwt van in 1923.

When Austin announced that he was going to make 300 Sevens a week, people said he was crazy and would not sell 50. Edgar Duffield of *The Automotor Journal* forecast the end of the company. In fact, the Seven saved it and within a few years was outselling the larger Austins. In 1927, 20,000 Sevens were sold out of an Austin total of 38,000.

The Austin Seven grew up over the years, gaining in size, weight and a certain amount of sophistication. An electric starter was introduced in 1924, a stronger crankshaft in 1930, a four-speed gearbox in 1932, with synchromesh a year later. In 1931, a longer wheelbase made the Seven into a full four-seater and, as the 1930s progressed, the proportion of closed saloons grew.

The much-loved Ruby saloon of 1935 saw the disappearance of the rectangular radiator behind a painted shell and a more curved body. Ruby production ended in March 1939, by which time the number of Sevens made had exceeded 295,000. Assuming that most passed on to second owners, and many to third, fourth or more, Austin's hopeful slogan of 1923, "The Motor for the Millions", turned out to be no exaggeration.

Though the touring engine gave no more than 17hp, it was suitable for tuning and many sports and racing versions were made. Austin's son-in-law, Arthur Waite, was one of the successful early drivers, racing Sevens at Brooklands. By 1930 a supercharged engine was giving 56hp and the ultimate was reached in the 1936 twin-overhead camshaft single seaters, which gave 116hp, still from only 744cc.

The Austin Seven was important not only in its own right but as the ancestor of several famous names, among them Jaguar, Lotus, BMW and Datsun. William Lyons's first cars were special-bodied Sevens, the Swallow saloons and sports cars, of which 3,500 were made from 1927 to 1932. Colin Chapman's first three Lotus Specials were Seven-based. In Germany, the car was built under licence as the Dixi, in France as the Rosengart and in America as the American Austin.

In 1928, the Dixi company was taken over by BMW, which until then made only motorcycles. The Seven design was made as the BMX 3/15PS up to 1932. Now, through its purchase of Rover, BMW owns the Austin name.

In Japan, Nissan based its 1934 Datsun on the Seven, but there were not enough direct similarities for Austin to demand a licence fee, even though he bought one for examination. This car, now in the National Motor Museum, is probably the oldest Japanese-built car in Europe.

The most important Seven in the museum is the 1938 Pearl Cabriolet, a convertible version of the Ruby, which now belongs to my elder son, Ralph. All three of my children have learned to drive in it.

As I always say, if you learn in an Austin Seven, you can drive anything.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vintage Castrol makes a comeback

Specially formulated oil for veteran cars has been reintroduced by Castrol after a gap of nearly 70 years. Castrol Classic GP50 is for veteran, vintage and early performance cars, XL30 for pre-1940 cars, and XL20/50 for cars made between 1950 and 1980. Sole distributor is Promapac (Lubricants), PO Box 852, Swavesey, Cambs CB4 5TW (01954 231668).

RAC relief

The RAC has frozen annual subscriptions. It says that car tax (up £5 this year), petrol (11p a gallon higher) and the 2.5 per cent insurance premium tax are enough to bear.

Bus bonus

Points earned by parents using Barclaycard and donated to a Ford/Barclaycard school minibus fundraiser, could mean savings of £4,000 to £6,000 on 12 and 15-seat Transit minibuses.

Birthday book

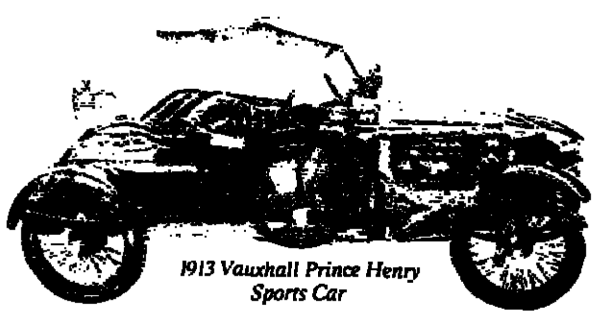
Celebrating 90 years of Rolls-Royce is a new book, *The Edwardian Rolls-Royce*, by John Fasal and Bryan Goodman, who have amassed 1,000 period photographs and illustrations of the marque. For more information, write to: Thames View, Thames View Business Centre, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3LF.

Race challenge

Novice race drivers can contest the Caterham Sports Scholarship, if they have £8,995 to spend. The contest includes hill-climbing and track racing in Caterham two-seaters equipped with 1.6-litre Ford twin-carburettor engines. Contact Peter Haynes on 01883 346666.

THE TIMES

Historic cars print offer



1913 Vauxhall Prince Henry Sports Car

Today we offer readers a further opportunity to buy prints of two of John Lawson's cut-away illustrations of Lord Montagu's series of outstanding British vehicles: the 1913 Vauxhall Prince Henry Sports Car (above) and the 1923 Austin Seven also pictured on this page.

The prints are available in two forms:

- ● Unframed, 297mm by 420mm, on 130gm paper. Price £3.99 including VAT and carriage;
- ● A limited edition of 250 prints signed by Lawson and Lord Montagu, on 170gm paper, 297mm by 420mm plus a 6cm border and in a choice of four frames. Price £29.99 including VAT and carriage. For queries, phone 0843-602717.

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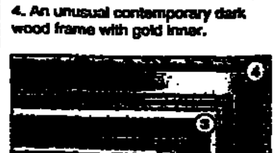

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The Austin Seven — a born survivor

OF NEARLY 300,000 Austin Sevens made at Longbridge it is estimated that 10,000 to 12,000 survive providing the basis of enthusiasts' clubs around the world. Many are still in daily use (Alan Copps writes).

The car was so popular for so long as family transport that for many it epitomises the nostalgia which has fuelled the classic car boom. There are probably more clubs devoted to the Austin Seven than to any other single model. Its simplicity, the many sporty versions and the fact that it formed the basis of so many "specials" give it an added attraction for those keen on racing.

Tom McFadden of the Midlands Austin Seven Club is the proud owner of five, one of which he drives several times a week. "It's a Chummy bought in 1939 for £9. I bought it in 1989 after it had 50 years of use by one owner. It runs beautifully," he said.

The car's appeal is, he feels: "Easy maintenance, the availability of spares and a low-cost entry to the world of vintage cars. You can get a complete exhaust system for less than £30, it's very easy to work on yourself and there are several companies who produce new parts."

Mr McFadden, who is also senior technical officer at the Museum of British Road Transport in Coventry, says the variety of models is another advantage. Clubs organise regular rallies, races, speed trials and hill climbs. Highlights this year include a Brooklands gathering on April 17, the National Austin Seven Rally at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Hants, on July 2 and the annual rally beside the Longbridge plant organised by the Midlands Club on July 23.

The Vintage Sports Car Club includes races for the Austin Seven at many of its meetings around the country and a number of the regional clubs are planning overseas trips to France and Holland.

For further details contact: Tom McFadden, 21 Milford Close, Allesley Village, Coventry CV5 9BS. 01203 404967.

Museum of British Road Transport, Cook Street, Coventry. 01203 832425. Adults £3.30 for a one-year pass.

هكذا من الاصل

مصدر من الأصل

Andrew Pierce finds himself on a sticky wicket with Frances Edmonds

'I want a secret ray gun to vaporise arrogant men'

STEERING COLUMN

The straight-talking Frances Edmonds, author of the best-selling *Another Bloody Tour*, has published her second novel, *The Star of Heaven*. It is set, not surprisingly, in the cricket world with a dashing Imran Khan figure at the centre of the action. Edmonds, married to former Test match cricketer Phil, is striking a blow for women in the male-dominated world of sport with her Radio 5 Live show, *Women on Top*.

Where did you first learn to drive?

In Brussels, where I was an international conference interpreter for the European Commission. Part of the deal was a tax-free car. I felt obliged to learn to drive it.

What was your first car?

A Fiat 128 Sport. It was bright orange so that people could see me coming. Given that the driving test in Brussels was a written, not practical, examination I thought this was only fair. To allay British drivers' fears, I hasten to add that I did subsequently acquire a British driving licence, which is, at least, worth the paper it's written on.

What car do you drive now and why?

A Peugeot 309. It's practical, easy to park and unobtrusive. I rarely use it for anything, other than school and supermarket trips. As we live in central London, and have no off-street parking, anything flashier would attract vandals. I don't rate cars highly on my list of *desiderata*. People who have to rely on cars to imbue them with personality ought to spend the money on a good therapist.

Do you enjoy driving?

Driving in London is a nightmare. Now I enjoy it only on empty country roads when I can admire the scenery.

What is your dream car?

I would like my car fitted with a secret ray gun so I could vaporise the bad-mannered, arrogant, aggressive drivers — men — who carve me up.

What is your most hated car?

Any driven by a bad-mannered arrogant, aggressive driver. See above.

What is your worst habit in the car?

I talk back to the radio. When I'm writing a novel, which I am at the moment, I have conversations with myself to develop the characters' dialogue. Any passing motorists who see me must think that I'm barking mad.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

The same … bad manners, arrogance and aggression. Add to that sheer incompetence, which is more prevalent in Brussels.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

I once found myself listening to a radio interview and thinking Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, was delivering a credible performance. Then I realised that it wasn't him, it was somebody else.

Have you ever had points on your licence?

No.

What do you listen to in the car?

BBC Radio 5 Live, or Mozart.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

I would make public transport free. Expensive perhaps, but not compared with the hidden costs of ill-health (physical and mental) and the inefficiency of our cities.

What is your favourite car advertisement?

The one with the bushfire. But I haven't a clue which car it's promoting.

JULIAN HERBERT

Edmonds and her Peugeot 309: "Anything flashier would attract vandals."

Film star signs up for Civic role …

BY VAUGHAN FREEMAN

JAMES FLEET, the actor who shot to fame in *Four Weddings And A Funeral*, is to feature in Honda's new television advertising this month to launch the British-built Civic five-door saloon.

Fleet is seen walking initially around a crushed cube of steel. The cube slowly reverts and remodels itself into an uncrushed Civic as he recounts the merits of the car.

The advertisement spearheads an eight-week, multi-million pound publicity blitz, backed by a poster and press campaign. Using Fleet is, Honda says, a media coup which will "help reposition the Honda brand in the UK" as well as sell the Civic.

Honda is following a trend by using big budget power to finance small-screen adverts. Seat has just spent £5 million on advertising its Ibiza model, and Vauxhall spent a similar sum on the campaign featuring supermodel Naomi Campbell to launch the Corsa.

Latest figures show that Ford spent £57 million on advertising in 1993, Vauxhall £50.5 million, Rover £42 million, Renault £37 million, Peugeot £36 million, VW/Audi £34 million, Nissan £31 million and Citroen £30 million.

Advertising is said to add £200 to the price of every new car sold in Britain.

Old-timers race to join Peking to Paris rally

TWO Bentleys and two Rolls-Royces are among the first seven entrants to be confirmed for the Peking to Paris Motor Challenge to take place in 1997 to mark the ninetieth anniversary of the original motoring marathon.

Their drivers are among 624 who have applied for information about the event, which is open to only 50 cars. The organisers are selecting entries in batches in an attempt to make the field as international as possible. The selection committee will meet again in May.

On the confirmed list — a 1929 Bentley Le Mans from Switzerland, a 1935 Bentley Derby Special from Britain, a 1931 Phantom 2 from The Netherlands and a 1950 Silver Dawn from Austria are joined by a Triumph TR4 from The Netherlands, a Jaguar XK150 and rather surprisingly an Austin Westminster 105, both from Britain. A further 15 applicants have already been put on the reserve list.

"I don't know where the XK Jag people intend to pack their billy-cans," Philip Young, the rally director, said. He urges entrants to read the accounts of the original journey to help solve such problems.

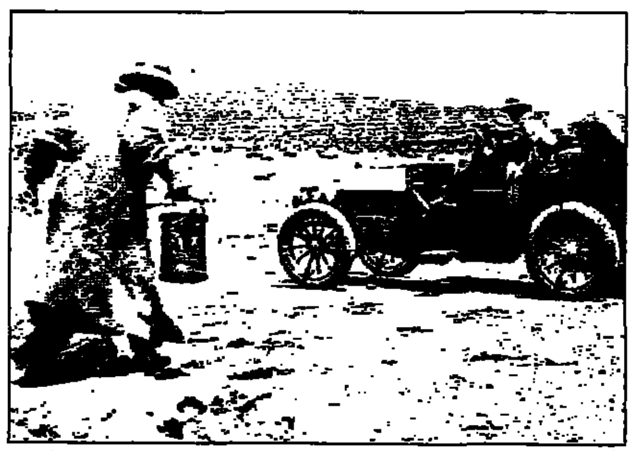
Only in one case, that of an applicant from Argentina, have the organisers asked a driver to reconsider his choice of car. They felt the original proposal was not interesting enough to satisfy the demands of film-makers who are helping to sponsor the venture.

Mr Young is at pains to point out some of the hazards to would-be competitors, for example, reminding them that the Tibet section of the route includes passes at more than 17,000ft, so "drivers and navigators should take a second opinion from a doctor if there is any history of heart or asthma problems".

Most of the route is on Tarmac roads, unlike the original which kept close to railway lines and frequently crossed roadless tracts. The rally organisers, however, still recommend rally-style modifications such as sump-shields, reinforced springs and stiffened suspension.

Among the preliminary reading advised by Mr Young is his book, *Himalayan Minor*, an account of how he tackled the first Himalayan rally successfully in a Morris Minor. That car, he points out, had suspension raised to give it a full 7in ground clearance, a cautionary note for entrants in sports cars.

Information from: Rally House, 85-87 St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9TU (01892 524746).



High and dry: a 1907 entrant takes on water in the desert

Aston Martin, still in its prime

IN AN age when car makers are being urged to be as "green" as possible, Aston Martin is claiming an unusual distinction. "We believe our cars are the most recyclable cars ever," says Nick Fry, managing director.

It is estimated that of 12,000 Astons built, more than 9,000 are still on the road. The company offers a service whereby cars, no matter how old and decrepit, can be brought back to their prime.

Mr Fry says the firm's car-for-life policy guarantees that all new cars will stay on the road for 75 years: "Cars can become heirlooms, handed down through the family."

Owners of older Aston Martins are lining up to have them rebuilt using the latest engineering and paint technology.

Mr Fry says: "We had a customer from America who brought his DB5 to us. He had inherited it from his uncle and it was in a sad condition. We pointed out that it would cost close to £100,000 to renovate and for that sort of money we could find him a similar model in much better condition, but he wanted that car and that car only. He remembered being driven in it as a child.

"Another car, a DB2 from the early 1950s, was brought to us after it had sat in the African desert for 30 years. It had a few bullet holes in it, but we were able to totally restore that car as well. A lot of customers treat their cars as works of art, taking the view that if you're restoring the *Mona Lisa* you don't modernise the paint scheme."

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Guy Walters looks out on the world from the tinted windows of a luxurious Lincoln Continental stretch limo — and finds plenty of the world looking in

A long taste of the good life

MARTIN BEDDALL

Champagne lifestyle: a glass of Bollinger while reading about — and behaving like — the rich and famous

Stretch limousines were once the domain of celebrities and the seriously rich: those over whom *Hello!* salivates and the *Morning Star* spits. Inside this 25ft of American excess, you would expect to find occupants more likely to grace your television set than a traffic jam. Tinted windows add an enigmatic touch: who is this person who chooses to hide in a car as long as a bus?

It just might be a Michael Jackson or an Elizabeth Hurley, but it's more likely to be a Mrs Higgins from across the road, or perhaps even a Clive from sales with a few of his mates. Why? Because hiring a limo is cheaper than a bargain-basement package holiday, and a lot more fun. You and three friends can pretend to be the small washed for three hours for just £30 each. Could this be the Prime Minister's classless society?

Part of the appeal of riding in a limo is the sublime naffness of it all. Personalised number plates are small beer compared with inhabiting a £45,000 Lincoln Continental with a television set, drinks cabinet, telephone, an intercom to speak to the driver, and that essential item that distinguishes a limo from everything else on the road — a boomerang on the back.

The first thing you notice upon entering this luxurious mobile bedsit is that you are looking to see if people are looking at you. The second thing you notice is that they most certainly are. And so it goes on: their expressions saying, "Do we recognise you? Are you famous?" and yours responding, "No I'm not famous, but do I look it? Would you think I was a star? Or a masquerader? Or just somebody who happens to be loathsomely rich?"

Refreshment stop: a quick glass at Quaglino's

If you hire a limo from The American Stretch Limousine Company, the chances are that your driver will be Ray Hill, a Vietnam veteran, a holder of the Purple Heart, and a match for any cab driver who would tell you that he had "that Bob Monkhouse in the back once". Ray has had some *really* big names in the back: Arnold Schwarzenegger, for instance.

What were they like? "Well," drawls Ray, "Rod Stewart was very well behaved compared to his reputation." You mean he didn't perform unspeakable acts with his ex-wives with the windows open? "No," says Ray.

How about Arnie then? "Well, he was on his way to the opening of Planet Hollywood, and he spent most of his time talking to Bruce Willis on his own cellular phone." Hmmm.

So no drug-crazed orgies. What has happened to our celebrities? Judging from an expert witness like Ray, they're a pretty tame lot. However, it seems the non-famous are more licentious in the back of a limo. So then, Ray, does anybody . . . you know, well, I mean, *do it* in the back? Ray displays the better part of valour: "We let people do as they please," he says. The wry Tennessee grin on his face suggests that's a "yes". How about drugs, Ray, do people still take drugs in limousines? "Not that I'm aware of," he says. "I think most people have enough discretion."

The back of a limousine is the setting for some wholesome stories, too: "I've had three men proposing marriage. And I'm pleased to tell you that all three ladies accepted," says Ray.

That's all well and good — but don't they feel a tinge of regret when they get back into their now-fiancé's V-reg Escort?

● *The American Stretch Limousine Company (0181-889 4848). An hour in a limo costs £35 (exclusive of VAT, inclusive of a complimentary bottle of champagne).*

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Red tape hits alert over Espace risk

Tony Dawe reports on the growing concern about a Renault bestseller

Thousands of motorists are continuing to drive Britain's best-selling "people carrier" unaware that it contains a potentially lethal design fault which has already caused scores of fires.

Bureaucratic bungling by Renault, the manufacturers, and the Transport Department has meant that owners of Espace turbo diesels have still not been informed of the fault revealed by *Car 95* three weeks ago.

Renault immediately announced a recall of 4,000 vehicles and the delay in carrying this out raises serious doubts about the ability of manufacturers and Government agencies to react promptly to dangerous faults. The company said yesterday, however, that it had "responded with suitable haste to a serious problem".

In the meantime, cars are continuing to catch fire, especially in cold weather when the risk is at its highest. Chris Baker, of Quenington, Gloucestershire, started his Espace last week to warm it up before taking his three children and two friends to school.

"In the time it took me to switch on the fan and rear window-heater, the car had filled with black smoke," he said.

"I found a fire extinguisher but that made no impact and it was only because people from the works opposite arrived with some foam that the car did not go up in flames and set fire to the house as well."

His 18-month-old Espace, which cost £18,000, was written off. After the blaze, Mr Baker learnt that *Car 95* had exposed the danger on February 18 and that it was caused by the closeness of the fuel filter outlet to electrical wiring. Diesel fuel needs pre-heating on cold days to achieve an immediate start and, in at least 40 cases, the outlet has overheated wiring harnesses, causing a short circuit and subsequent fire.

Renault's recall targetted 4,000 Espace turbo diesels registered between March 1993 and last June for a clamp to be fitted to separate the wiring and outlet and a fuse installed to prevent short circuits. Nobody has yet been notified, however, and fires could continue to occur, as Mr Baker's case proves.

Interminable bureaucracy appears to have delayed the recall. Red tape required Renault to:

☐ Seek approval for the modifications and decision to recall the cars from the Transport Department's vehicle inspectorate.

☐ Obtain details of all registered owners of the affected models from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency.

☐ Inform the owners of the company's plans to carry out the modifications free of charge.

The DVLA received a formal request for the information only on Thursday, 20 days after Renault had announced the recall. A company spokesman said, however, that it had acted as quickly as possible. "We identified the problem in January but had to discover where the fault lay, which was not easy as some of the cars were burnt out," he said.

"Next, we had to effect a temporary then a permanent solution and identify the chassis numbers of the vehicles to be recalled so that the DVLA could trace current owners."

Mr Baker, a RAF flight engineer, insisted that Renault could have faxed all its dealers to obtain names and addresses from them.

"It cannot be that difficult to notify everyone promptly," he said.

Renault had also promised that motorists concerned at the risk could call dealers to arrange for the first part of the modification, the fitting of the clamp, to be done immediately. This, too, has not been happening.

Car 95 has been inundated with calls from baffled Espace owners such as Tony Moore, of Watford, who have contacted local dealers as instructed, only to be told the firms have heard nothing from Renault.

Do you have a paint problem?

Chris Puckey of Ingham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, has been battling with Renault for four years over the poor metallic paint on his Espace. "I know of two owners with similar problems with the lacquer finish and want to hear from others so we can jointly persuade Renault to take action," he said. The company insists the age of his car is to blame.

4,000 Renault people-carriers called in for checks after Car 95 investigates blazes

Fire mystery Espace recalled

Flashback: how *Car 95* reported the story on February 18

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A CHANNEL HOPPER'S GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S TV AND RADIO

SEVEN DAYS TV 10-23

SEVEN DAYS RADIO 24-27

THE TIMES VISION

SATURDAY 11 — FRIDAY 17 MARCH 1995

FOLKLORE

3 Exmoor's beast: myth or mountain lion?

MUSIC

5 The White Room

DRAMA

6 Band of Gold hits the street

11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

VISION

Vision, the guide to seven days' television and radio programmes, is published as part of *The Times* every Saturday

FOLKLORE

3

Whatever may be loose on Exmoor, Jack Crossley finds *no hard evidence in* **The Call of the Beast**

EXPERTS

4

The Times's specialist writers guide you to the best on television, from science to soap and sport, oldies to arts programmes

ROCK/MUSIC

5

The **White Room**, by the team that gave us *The Tube* and Jools Holland as a presenter, promises a wide range of no-frills live music

Plus

Red Nose Day: watch and give to Comic Relief

DRAMA

6

Victoria McKee mets Kay Mellor, author of the new serial **Band of Gold**

Plus

Food File and olive oil

[illegible]

7

David Robinson's Pick of the Week. The best of the rest, by **John Marriott and Richard Scott**

TELEVISION

10

14 pages, seven days, *including satellite*

RADIO

24

Peter Barnard's pick of the week ahead

24-27: Full listings of all national stations

Cover picture: a mountain lion, of the kind said to roam Exmoor, photographed in Aspen Colorado. Grafton M. Smith/The Image Bank.

CHANNEL-HOPPING

Doing things differently

David Flusfeder makes his pick of the week's programmes across all channels

AUF WIEDERSEHEN, PET
Today, Saturday, Channel 4, 9pm
WHEN the footballer Ian Rush played for one unhappy year in Turin he was asked what it was like over there. Rush, the story goes, replied that living in Italy was like being in a foreign country. From *the same innocent time comes this* superb sitcom. Made in 1983, scripted by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, it's the tale of a bunch of English lads working on a building site somewhere near Dusseldorf, after money to send back home and money to drink away and spend, in awe, *on German prostitutes*. The writing is clever, funny, poignant. And the acting, from all the cast, is excellent. The best turns are performed by Jimmy Nail, Timothy Spall and by the late, much lamented Gary Holton.

**** Brits labour in Germany in repeat of wonderful 1983 sitcom.**

SPORT IN QUESTION
Monday, ITV, 10.40pm
IT'S been running for a year or so on local television in London and now Ian St John's and Jimmy Greaves's question and answer programme is deservedly being networked. A panel, typically composed of two sportsmen, one *administrator and a journalist, sit* around a table facing an audience who ask difficult questions to do with sporting morality and dubious recent practices. St John is the emollient, who pampers the guests, flatters their egos, and plays straight man to Greaves. Greaves *is the irritant*. He's the bar-room philosopher, who is capable of moments of insight, who seldom kowtows to the *establishment, but* who will also from time to time produce a remark of cringeworthy embarrassment.

**** Saint and Greavsie bat around sporting opinions.**

MODERN TIMES:
Death On Request
Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm
CEES van Wendel de Joode was dying of the wasting illness known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Cees and his wife Anthoinette lived in Amsterdam. The Dutch have different *attitudes to euthanasia. It's legal* over there. Two doctors must concur over the hopeless suffering of the patient and the sincerity fo the patient's desier to die. Then, when the patient requests it, his or her general practitioner will provide two injections: a sedative *followed by a poison*. This is what happened to Cees van Wendel de Joode. We follow his case to, and through, the peaceful end. We spend time with the diligent Doctor van Oijen, pale from living in the shadow of his patients' deaths, but who shows an enviable calm and stoical certainty that he is doing exactly the right thing. And we spend time with Cees and Anthoinette.

Cees is dwindling, awfully. Stuck in a wheelchair, tapping out letters on an alphabet mat to spell out his needs, dependent entirely on his wife. Anthoinette is the centre of this programme. She smokes a cigarette with shaking fingers as *the doctor prepares* the second injection. After the death the doctor reads out the final love letter her husband had laboriously pecked out on a computer the day before and you realise what this programme is about. It is nominally about euthanasia, raising impor*tant moral* questions by showing how the practice operates in The Netherlands. But the strength of *Anthoinette's feeling highjacks* the documentary, turning it into a testament of marital love.

***** Gripping documentary on euthanasia in The Netherlands.**

Russian Wonderland: Natasha (left) and a friend in Moscow

RUSSIAN WONDERLAND
Friday, BBC 2, 9.30pm
ONE day television companies will have distributed lightweight video camcorders to everyone in the world. It's the modern equivalent of *the arms race, as television channels* measure their success by the size of their stockpiles of real people doing real things rendered in slightly fuzzy images. The BBC must be doing very well because now it has asserted its videocam hegemony over Russia. Over the *next two weeks* there will be ten slightly fuzzy reports showing life in Mosco and St Petersburg. This opening programme *offers three* stories from the grim side of Russian life. Natasha and her mother are *Ukranians, stuck in* Moscow with no residency rights or means of support. So off goes cocky, six-year-old Natasha, to walk up and down past lines of traffic-*jammed cars*, demanding money from their drivers. Natasha passes it on to her mother, who in reutrn *calls her her little chick or her little* Hollywood star.

Then there are the parallel stories of Alexei and Vladamir. Both are due to be conscripted into the army. Alexei longs for it. His family throw him a party on the night before, and everyone gets drunk and *mother and grandmother weep*, and Alexei struts and smirks and kisses the women. Meanwhile, medical student Vladamir is drinking ampules of caffeine to raise his blood pressure to fail the medical.

The third story is the best. It seems that Russian women's *prisons are crammed* to bursting with wives who have killed their drunken husbands with kitchen knives. Julia has served three years and then is released, blinking into the sunlight. Five months later she has spent a little time with her children, she has a better pair of glasses, and a new boyfriend, impeccably sober throughout.

**** Videocam reports from Russian life.**

NEW SERIES BEGINNING MARCH 11-17

SATURDAY
Beadle's About *ITV*
Caught on Camera *ITV*
Tarbuck Late *ITV*
Live from the Lilydrome *ITV*
Auf Wiedersehen, Pet *C4*
The White Room *C4*
Red Light Zone *C4*

SUNDAY
The Big Picture *BBC 2*
Band of Gold *ITV*

WEDNESDAY
More of ... Glyn Christian's
Entertaining Microwave *BBC 1*
Brill *ITV*
Cone Zone *ITV*

THURSDAY
Animal Detectives *ITV*
Food File *C4*

FRIDAY
Russian Wonderland *BBC2*
The Champions *BBC2*

4 eyes
OH, NO! "SHE'S OUT"!
FUNNY... I THOUGHT THEY'D LOCKED HER AWAY FOR GOOD!
H.M.P. HOLLOWAY
SHE GOT REMISSION APPARENTLY...
WHAT? WITH HER RECORD? IT'S CRIMINAL!
SHE'S TRYING TO USE STOLEN DIAMONDS TO OPEN A CHILDREN'S HOME THIS TIME...
STOLEN DIAMONDS? ESTHER RANTZEN?
NO, DOLLY RAWLINS WHO MURDERED HER HUSBAND IN "WIDOWS", REMEMBER?
OH YEAH! PITY, THOUGH. FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT "HEARTS OF GOLD" WAS LOOKING UP!
©Tony Wilkinson 1995

THURSDAY MARCH 16

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast *Show* **6.30** *Steve Wright in the Morning* **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell, live from Glasgow with the Scottish heat of *War of the Noses* **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman *Catch me Spiderman!*; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session, presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Soundbite, presented by *Danny Kelly Ian McNabb talks about the song that changed* his life **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons with music to take you through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford, including at **2.30** the star guest interview **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Marc Blake's Whining for England *An alphabetical look at the way people like to moan* **7.30** *David* Allan **9.00** Paul Jones, with rhythm and blues, and a session from blues guitarist Mick Pini and his band **10.00** British Country Neil Coppendale with more music from nominees in the Great British Country Music Awards **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30 Open University: Social Science Foundation Course. Assignment 103 **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Handel (Concerto grosso in F, Op 3 No 4a); Bax (Legend); Ravel (*Piano Concerto for the Left-Hand*); Francesco Cavalli (Lauda Jerusalem); Purcell (A selection of songs); Stravinsky (Petrushka)
9.00 Composer of the Week. Wagner (The Ring, Tristan; The Mastersingers, Huldingungsmarsch, Polka in G; Eine Sonate für das Album von Frau *MW; Ankunft bei den schwarzen Schwänen*; Albumblatt in C, in das Album der Fürstin Metternich; Wesendonck Lieder)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Including Russian songs sung by Dmitri Hvorostovsky. Gabrieli (Sonata XX a 22, Canzoni e Sonate 1615); **10.07** *Artist of the Week*: Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone. *Borodin (No sleep, no rest, Prince Igor)*; **10.15** Mozart (Piano Concerto No 12 in A); Grainger (Scotch Strathspey and Reel); Beethoven (Bagatelles, Op 126, excerpts); Bax (Symphony No 3. Hallé Orchestra under John Barbirolli)
12.00 Ensemble: The Fibonacci Sequence performs Saint-Saëns (Septet in E flat, Op 65); Nielsen (*Serenato in vano*); *Damase (Trio for flute, cello* and harp); Martinů (La révue de cuisine) (r)
1.00pm The Boston Romantics: Music from late 19th-century Boston. George Chadwick (Symphony No 3, slow movement; String Quartet No 5, Finale), Horatio Parker (Organ Concerto in E flat minor, last movement); Charles Ives (Ich grolle nicht; *The Circus Band*)
2.00 Schools: Radio Q and A **2.05** In the News **2.25** Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies
2.40 Music Workshop: Music Course 3 Orpheus
3.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Symphony Orchestra under Gunter Herbig, Michael Davis, violin; Paul Watkins, cello; Richard Simpson, *oboe; Rachel Gough, bassoon Webern* (Passacaglia, Op 1); Haydn (Sinfonia Concertante in B flat). Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G)
4.15 York Piano Trio William Reed (Piano Trio, Op 27); William Hurlstone (Piano Trio in G) (r)
5.00 The Music Machine Tommy Pearson explores *musical entertainment in the Second World War*, and discovers how music helped morale
5.15 In Tune. Mozart (Concert aria Ch'io mi scordi di te); Brahms (Ballade in B, Op 10 No 4)
7.00 Artaxerxes, live from Stationers' Hall, London. Thomas Arne's opera, based on his own translation of Metastasio, was the first full-scale *opera seria in English*. Tonight it recieves its first modern performance in a new reconstruction by Peter Holman. Acts 1 and 2; **8.50** Interval Peter Holman looks at the problems of reconstructing the opera after the original performing material was destroyed in a fire in 1808; **9.10** Act 3
10.15 Time and Changes Stan Tracey, jazz pianist *and composer*, talks to Geoffrey Smith
10.45 Night Waves: Christopher Cook asks why so many girls but so few boys read Louisa May Alcott; and the choreographer Mark Morris talks about his new dance
11.30-12.30am Voices. Matthias Görne, baritone, and Wolfram Rieger, piano, perform songs by *Schubert, Beethoven and* Schumann
1.30-2.40 Night School: Come and Praise Special **2.00** German 12-14: Radio Aktiv

RADIO 4

***5.55am** Shipping Forecast* **6.00** *News Briefing*; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with the Rev Ruth Scott **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Michael Buerk *chairs a live investigation into the moral* questions behind the week's news. With Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey
10.00-10.30 News; After Eden (FM only): Alison Leonard's six-part drama series about a woman priest. With Christine Pritchard (3/6)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): Mercy. A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: Lebanese writer Hanan al Shaykh talks to Jenni Murray
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent: Reports from BBC correspondents around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Questions of Taste: Chris Kelly introduces highlights from the food-and-drink panel game (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Tower, by Greg Cullen. Ten years after *the miners returned* to work after a year-long strike, the workers at Tower Colliery in South Wales refused to be defeated. With Islwyn Morris, Sue Roderick and Bob Pugh
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen reviews Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*; Howard Barker's latest play, *Judith*, at the Leicester Haymarket; and Patricia Highsmith's last novel
4.45 Telling Stories: Bertram's Funeral. David Burke reads Allan Massie's story
5.00 PM, with *Linda Lewis and Hugh Sykes* **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Lost in Space: Second episode of Colin Swash's six-part space-age comedy With Tony Robinson and David Haig
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: *Gerry Gable has dedicated most* of his life to exposing the activities of the far right in the pages of his anti-fascist magazine
8.00 Analysis. The Human Factor. Denys Blakeway examines the debate over human nature and its implications for public policy
8.45 Stranger than Fiction: In the second of a six-*part series, Jill Paton Walsh considers* the Gospel accounts of the trial and death of Jesus
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Presented by Judy Graham for people with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Diary of Adam and Eve, *by Mark Twain Read by Patrick Barlow* (1/2) (r)
11.00 A Wagner Matinee: Willa Cather's moving short story of self-sacrifice set in 1890s Boston, dramatised by Sara Baker. With Ron Lo Van, Charlotte Peod, Sheila Fornini and Ed Peod
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (**LW** only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am *Morning Reports* **6.00** *The Breakfast Programme*, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, including at **9.40** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Katie Derham with Moneycheck **2.05** The Cheltenham Festival, featuring races at **2.15, 2.50** and **3.30**, and at **3.45** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.30** Nationwide, with Julian Worricker **7.00** *News Extra, including at* **7.20** *sport* **7.35** The Thursday Match: Auxerre v Arsenal **9.35** Sports America, with Alton Byrd **10.05** News Talk, with Paul *Reynolds* **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto Miaskovsky (Cello Concerto in C minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert Cleveland Orchestra under George Szell plays J Strauss, son (Pizzicato Polka); *Mozart (Piano Concerto No 25 in C)*; Debussy (Iberia, Images); Beethoven (Symphony No 3 in E flat, Eroica) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner ***12.00** Graham Dene* **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** *Fruhmagazin* **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *The Inseperable Twins* **7.30** Network UK ***8.00** News* **8.10** *Words of Faith* **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Assignment **10.30** Quote Unquote **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: X-Press **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *The Inseperable Twins* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** News **3.15** Greenfield Collection **3.30** Cheltenham Gold Cup **3.40** Greenfield Collection cont. **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** *Heute Aktuell* **7.00** *News* **7.05** Outlook **7.30** On the Move **7.45** The Farming World **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** *Europe Today* **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Quote Unquote **12.00** News **12.15am** Music Review **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** A History of the Novel in Six Chapters **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** Newsdesk

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar **1.00am** *Al Kelly*

FRIDAY MARCH 17

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo, featuring Wet Wet Wet live for Comic *Relief* **12.00** Lisa L'Anson with the Lunchtime Show including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark *Goodier, live from Belfast for the Northern Ireland heat of War of the Noses* and including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Pete Tong's Essential Selection a musical start to the weekend **10.00** John Peel DJ Hell with Munich technopunk and the Faith Healers **1.00am** The FM Rap Show with Westwood

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken *Bruce* ***11.30** Jimmy Young* ***2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford* ***3.30** Ed* Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Panel Beaters Quiz and panel games from the archives (2/4) **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Treasure Island *Read by John Nettles (8/10)* **9.00** Listen to the Band Yorkshire Building Society Band under David King and Nicholas Childs **10.00** Seamus McKee with the Radio 2 Arts Programme A St Patrick's Day edition live *from New York* ***12.05am** Digby Fairweather* ***1.00** Charles* Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University Maths Composite Functions **6.55** *Weather*
7.00 On Air Bach (Toccata and Fugue in F). Debussy (Preludes Nos 1-3, Book 1). **7.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in G minor, Op 74 No 3); **8.05** Mussorgsky (St John's Night on the Bare Mountain, original version); Massenet (Que mes soeurs sont heureuses, *Cendrillon*); *Strauss (Duett-Concertino)*
9.00 Composer of the Week Wagner Barry Millington describes the composer's final years, including the first performance of *Parsifal* and the complete *Ring* cycle, and introduces some of the other music he composed at the same time, including Kaisermarsch; Albumblatt in E *flat, Grosser Festmarsch, Siegfried Idyll*
10.00 Musical Encounters Strauss (Serenade, Op 7), **10.10** *Artist of the Week* Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone. Rachmaninov (Aleko's Cavatina, Aleko); **10.17** Bax (Symphony No 2); Debussy (Trois chansons de Charles d'Orléans), Schumann (Fantasiestücke, Op 111); Bridge (*Enter Spring*)
12.00 Voices Songs by Schubert, Beethoven and Schumann (r)
1.00pm St David's Hall Lunchtime Recital. Carmina Quartet Mozart (String Quartet in G); Debussy (String Quartet in G minor)
2.00 Schools: The Song Tree Music Course 1 — *The Vanishing Hole* **2.15** *Together Stories* **2.30** Dance Workshop **2.50** Poetry Corner
3.00 Mining the Archive: Time Regained The final programme in the series celebrates the career of the violinist Ida Haendel Including recordings of Wieniawski, Sibelius (Violin Concerto) and Enesco (Violin Sonata No 3)
***4.20 Hits of the Forties**: James Clarke* listens to a sentimental hit from 1942
4.30 Music of the Silk Road: More traditional music from the great trade route across Central Asia
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson gives a brief guided tour of Britten's *War Requiem*
5.15 In Tune Richard Baker presents a special *Comic Relief edition on St Patrick's Day*
7.30 Towards the Millennium: Mary King, mezzo; Andrew Ball, piano; Kreutzer Quartet Poulenc (Banalités); Philipp Jarnach (Dar Amrumer Tagebuch); Elizabeth Lutyens (The Actress, Progression, The Songster, The Repentence of Lady T, Lady Rogue Singleton, Songs of Stevie *Smith*), *Britten (A Charm of Lullabies)*; **8.15** Catching the Eye: Madeleine Ginsburg looks at how war dictated the fashions of the 1940s, **8.35** Philip Cashian (So Lonely, BBC commission, first performance); Paul Bowles (Settings of Tennessee Williams: Lonesome Man; Three, Sugar in the Cane); John Cage (A Room; The *Wonderful Widow of* Eighteen Springs; A Room); Montsalvatge (Canciones negras)
9.30 Britain in Pictures: Michael Carney reads from *English Cricket* by Neville Cardus
9.50 BBC Philharmonic *under Günter Herbig*. Bruckner (Symphony No 9 in D minor)
10.45 Friday Feature: Gathering Winter Fuel Colin McLaren recalls the winter of 1947
11.30-12.30am Midnight Oil Alwynne Pritchard introduces Vasily Lobanov playing his own *Piano Sonata No 2* and Henryk Gorecki's *Lerchenmusik, performed by the London* Sinfonietta Soloists

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing. Weather **6.10** Farming *Today* **6.25** *Prayer for the* Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** *Thought for the Day* **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is the writer Nigel Nicolson (r)
9.45 Feedback Chris Dunkley *airs comments on* BBC programmes and policy
10.00-10.30 News; Listen to the Cinema! (FM only): Action, Mystery and Adventure In the last of the series, David Huckvale talks to composers about the contribution music makes to a film
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood *(LW only)*: *Youth* without Reward. A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced from Belfast by Wendy Austin. Serial: *The Normal Man*, by Susie Boyt (2/8) incl **11.00 News**
11.30 The Natural History Programme, presented by Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours, *with Dairo Brehan*
12.25pm The Food Programme, presented by Derek Cooper **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Mateo Falcone. Peter Mackie's dramatisation of the classic short story by *Prosper Mérimée (r)*
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope in New York: On St Patrick's Day, Tim Marlowe reports on the opening of Brian Friel's play, *Translations*, on Broadway; and looks at the Whitney Museum's exhibition of contemporary American art
***4.45 Telling Stories** The last of five stories from the* BBC's annual collection, published this week. Sean Campion reads *Our Genius* by Robert Cromins (r)
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
***6.30 Going Places** Ideas for the weekend ahead*
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with Christopher Serle
8.05 Any Questions? Nick Clarke chairs a topical discussion in Easingwold, North Yorkshire. Among the guests are Alex Salmond MP, leader of the Scottish National Party; and Arthur *Scargill, president* of the National Union of Mineworkers
8.50 Speaking As an Expert: See Pick, page 24
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: *Some Enchanted* Evening with Bryn Terfel. The bass-baritone talks to the pianist Iain Burnside, and joins him in a *selection of songs (r)* **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Diary of Adam and Eve. Miranda Richardson concludes her reading of Mark Twain's comic fable (r)
11.00 Week Ending: A satirical news review with Sally Grace, Jeffrey Holland, Toby Longworth and *Sarah Parkinson*
11.25 Tea Junction: Patrick Hannan and his guests take a sceptical look at the week's events
11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, *incl* ***12.27*** *Weather* ***12.33*** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (**LW** only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am *Morning Reports* **6.00** *The Breakfast Programme*, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Diana Madill, including at **9.40** Video Review, **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Chain Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** the day's sport in full **7.35** *Parkinson on Sport* ***8.35** Off Piste, with Sandy Warr* ***9.35** Now* the Good News **10.05** Stop Press, with John Diamond **10.35** Financial Week **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Richard Evans **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto Schumann (Piano Concerto in A minor. Dmitri Alexeev, piano, RPO under Yuri Temirkanov) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Classic Verdict **8.00** Evening Concert John Julius Norwich presents a concert for St Patrick's Day **10.00** Michael *Mappin, including at* ***11.00** Friday Live* **1.00am** *André Leon*, including **2.00** Concerto and **4.00** Classic Verdict

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte ***11.00** Nick Abbot* ***2.00-6.00am** Howard Pearce*

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf. *The Inseperable Twins* **7.30** Russia's Runaway Revolution **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** *Music Review* ***9.00** News* ***9.05** Business Report* **9.15** Global Concerns **9.30** On the Move **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Focus on Faith **10.30** The Soul Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Russia's Runaway Revolution **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf *The Inseparable Twins* **2.45** Global Concerns **3.00** News **3.15** *Music Review* ***4.00** News* ***4.15** BBC English* ***4.30** Heute* Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Russia's Runaway Revolution **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** People and Politics **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.30** Multitrack Alternative **12.00** News **12.15am** *The Desert of Merv* ***12.30** From the Weeklies* **12.45** The Learning World **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Worldbrief **1.45** Jazz **2.00** News **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Vintage Chart **4.00** News

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol *McGiffen* **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

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TUESDAY MARCH 14

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning, drumming up support for Comic Relief in the Midlands **9.00** Simon Mayo, **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell, including the Lovefeast of two romantic tunes chosen by listeners, and the Triple-Tracker **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session: presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** The Bruce Dickinson Rock Show **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Lynn Parsons with music through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford including at **2.30** the star guest interview **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hayes Over Britain: call 01645 288291 **8.30** My Mammy and Me: Cathy MacPhail's Scottish sitcom (5/6) **9.00** A Family of Song: The Sands family of Mayobridge, Co Down **10.00** My Music: Steve Race chairs the musical panel game **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, with Night Ride **1.30** Pause for Thought **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Managing Schools **6.55** Weather

7.00 On Air: With Andrew McGregor. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G); Glazunov (Spring, Op 34); Dvořák (Slavonic Rhapsody in A flat, Op 45 No 3); Howells (Jubilate, Collegium Regale); Telemann (Concerto in A minor); Britten (The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra)

9.00 Composer of the Week: Wagner — The Paris Years. Barry Millington traces the developing mastery of the young composer including Descendons gaiement la courtille; L'attente; Tout n'est qu'images fugitives; A Faust Overture; Rienzi, Act 5

10.00 Musical Encounters: With Mairi Nicholson. **10.00** *Artist of the Week*: Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone. Verdi (Di Provenza il mar, La Traviata); **10.05** Moeran (Suite: Farrago); Brahms (Violin Sonata No 3 in D minor, Op 108); Mussorgsky (Songs and Dances of Death: Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone); Beethoven (Bagatelles, Op 126, excerpts); Bax (Symphony No 1)

12.00 Music Restored: Helen Garrison introduces a concert from the 1994-1995 Early Music Network season. Monica Huggett, violin; Richard Savino, guitar. Castello (Sonata No 1, Sonate *concertante in stil moderno*); *Uccellini (Sonata* della la Luciminia contenta); Zamboni (Allemanda; Giga); Corelli (Sonata in C, Op 5 No 3); Giuliani (Theme and Variations, Duo Concertante in E minor, Op 25); Paganini (Sonata Concertata in A) (r)

1.00pm Wartime at the National Gallery: Robert Philip continues his series on Myra Hess's chamber music concerts. In 1942, many famous violinists appeared, including Ida Haendel, May Harrison and Max Rostal

2.00 Schools: Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!

3.00 Britain in the 1940s: Michael Berkeley explores the musical scene in Britain during the war and after, including excerpts from Britten's opera *Peter Grimes*, Tippett's Symphony No 1, Vaughan Williams's Symphony No 6 and Walton's music for Olivier's film of *Henry V*

5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson looks at music written in concentration camps during the Second World War

5.15 In Tune: Mozart (Overture: Fiordiligi's arias, Cosi fan tutte); Mozart (Symphony No 41 in C, Jupiter)

7.30 The Tippett Operas: *New Year.* Natalie Wheen introduces Michael Tippett's latest opera, given its European premiere in 1990 in Peter Hall's production for Glyndebourne Festival Opera

9.30 Britain in Pictures: Michael Carney reads from *British Polar Explorers* by Admiral Sir Edward Evans

9.50 The Art of Fugue: Phantasm performs a selection from Bach's *The Art of Fugue* on period instruments

10.45 Night Waves*: Gary Oldman plays Ludwig van* Beethoven in a new film, *Immortal Beloved*

11.30-12.30am The BBC Orchestras: BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Martyn Brabbins; Gyorgy Pauk, violin. Berg (Violin Concerto); Britten (Symphonic Suite: Gloriana)

1.00-2.40 Night School: Triple Bill — *The Haunting*: 2 **1.30** Come and Praise Special **2.00** French 14-16: Radio Relax

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with the Rev Ruth Scott **6.30** Today incl **7.00**, **7.30**, **8.00**, **8.30** News **7.45** Thought for the Day, with Tony Burnham **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 4444

10.00-10.30 News; Tales from the Back of Beyond (FM only): For 35 years since the occupation of Tibet by the Chinese, the Tibetans have lived in isolated groups around the world. A team of Oxbridge students travels to one of these cut-off communities in northern India to find out how the young Tibetans see their future today

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 Something Understood (LW only): Spiritual anthology, *The Midday*

10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray meets the Hollywood actress Lauren Bacall

11.30 Medicine Now: Geoff Watts reports

12.00 News; You and Yours: With Dairе Brehan

12.25pm Word of Mouth: Presented by Frank Delaney **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One: With Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Babies and Bath Water. In Brendan Gleeson's gentle comedy, two men seek sanctuary in a Dublin sauna from the stresses of modern life

2.30 Conversation Piece: Alison Kinnaird, glass engraver and harpist (r)

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: In an edition focusing on the 1940s, Paul Vaughan sees Noël Coward's play *Peace in Our Time*, an exhibition at the Imperial War Museum and Anthony Tudor's ballet, *Pillar of Fire*

4.45 Telling Stories: William Hootkins reads *Heroin Man* by Tom Drury

5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 The Board Game: Nigel Cassidy chairs the business quiz

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4: Jenny Cuffe reports

8.00 Science Now: Peter Evans reviews discoveries and developments in science (r)

8.30 New Spies for Old? In the second of six programmes examining the role of secret intelligence services in the post-Cold War world, Christopher Andrew visits Washington DC to find out how the CIA is coping with the new world disorder

9.00 In Touch: Magazine for people with a visual handicap. Presented by Peter White

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight: With Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (7/8)

11.00 Mediumwave: Joanna Coles explores the week's events in the media (r)

11.30-12.00 Four Corners (FM only): The Beaten Track. BBC correspondent Fergal Keane, the Royal Television Society's Journalist of the Year, presents reports from Rwanda, Yugoslavia and Beirut (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

***5.00am** Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to* Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** The Cheltenham Festival: coverage of the **2.15**, **2.50**, **3.30** and **4.05** races and at **3.45** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.30** Nationwide, with Julian Worricker **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sport **7.35** The Tuesday Match: Marcus Buckland presents Chelsea v FC Bruges in the second leg of the European Cup Winners' Cup **10.05** News Talk with Nigel Cassidy **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

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6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Bax (Violin Concerto: Lydia Mordkovitch; LPO) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** Evening Concert: Dvořák (Czech Suite, Op 39); Martinů (Memorial to Lidice); Suk (Suite: Fairy Tale), Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

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6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

*All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin* **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *The Inseparable Twins* **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** What Is . . ? **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** International Recital **9.00** World News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** The Essential Qur'an **9.30** On Screen **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Discovery **10.30** That was the Year... **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: Hit List **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *The Inseparable Twins* **2.45** Medical Notes **3.00** News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **3.50** Sportsworld **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.15am** International Recital **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Contemporaries of Christ **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk

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6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Mear and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

WEDNESDAY MARCH 15

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat; and at **1.15** music and entertainment news in The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier: including The Amazing Spiderman, with William Dufris, Lorelei King and Anita Dobson, and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session: Pavement performs live from the BBC studios **9.00** Bits from Last Week's Radio. Greg Proops presents this week's review **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Lynn Parsons, with music to take you through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2, featuring fiddler Barry Dransfield who first appeared on the programme nearly 25 years ago **8.00** Womanfolk: Catriona Macdonald introduces Kathryn Roberts **8.30** Harmeet Virdee Presents Expressions of the Sitar **9.00** Black Voices: Presented by Carol Pemberton **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Modern Art — Pissarro and the Politics of Perception

6.55 Weather

7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Including Dvořák (Nocturne in B, Op 40); Bach (Partita No 5 in G); Shostakovich (Ballet Suite No 3); Mendelssohn, transcr Liszt (Wedding March, A Midsummer Night's Dream); Puccini (Un bel di, Madama Butterfly); **8.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in F, Op 74 No 2)

9.00 Composer of the Week: Wagner — Kappellmeister in Dresden, 1843-1848. Barry Millington explores Wagner's career as a court musician. Cantata: Der Tag erscheint (Bamberg Symphony Chorus and Orchestra); Trauermusik (BBC SO under John Pritchard); An Webers Grabe; Das Liebesmahl der Apostel

10.00 Midweek Choice (of Choices): Susan Sharpe presents a programme of alternatives. Ring 0171-580 444 to choose your musical preference by pledging money to Comic Relief

12.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Martyn Brabbins; Gyorgy Pauk, violin. Berg (Violin Concerto); Britten (Symphonic Suite: Gloriana) (r)

1.00pm Concert Hall, live from the Wigmore Hall, *London. Todd Crow, piano, plays Haydn (Piano* Sonata in C minor, H XVI 20); Schumann (Humoreske in B flat, Op 20)

2.00 Schools: Together: An Assembly for Schools **2.20** Time and Tune: Music Course 2 — Dig It **2.40** Drama Workshop

3.00 Record Review, with Richard Osborne. *Building a Library*: Lionel Salter on Handel (Concerti grossi, Op 6) (r)

4.00 Choral Evensong, live from Southwell Minster

5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson finds out why composers stayed in Second World War Germany; and talks to Dr Thomas Gayda

5.15 In Tune, with Natalie Wheen. Schubert (Overture in F for piano duet, D675); Delibes (Les fleurs me paraissent plus belles, Lakmé); **6.30** Falla (En el Generalife, Nights in the Gardens of Spain); Weill (Pride, the Seven Deadly Sins)

7.30 Fairest Isle — Edward Elgar: the Music Maker. Live from the Festival Hall, London. Antonio Meneses, cello; BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis performs Handel, arr Elgar (Overture in D minor); Elgar (Cello Concerto in E minor); **8.10** During the interval, there is a discussion on Elgar's Second Symphony; **8.30** Elgar (Symphony No 2)

9.30 The Forties: Britain in Pictures. Michael Carney reads from *Battlefields in Britain* by C.V. Wedgwood

9.50 Byrd and Purcell: Phantasm performs Byrd (In Nomines); Purcell (Fantasies)

10.45 Night Waves: Lisa Jardine reviews the new edition of the Arden Shakespeare in conversation with editor David Scott Kastan; and introduces a first-night review of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at English National Opera

11.30-12.30am Ensemble: Fibonacci Sequence performs unusual chamber music. Saint-Saëns (Septet in E flat, Op 65); Nielsen (Serenato in vano); Damase (Trio for flute, cello and harp); Martinů (La rêvue de cuisine)

1.00-2.40 Night School: Triple Bill — *The Haunting*: 3 **1.30** Come and Praise Special **2.00** German 12-14: Radio Aktiv

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.00**, **7.30**, **8.00**, **8.30** News **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Midweek: With *Times* columnist Libby Purves and guest Joss Ackland

10.00-10.30 News; Gosling on Main Street (FM only): George Eastman, the man who founded Kodak, was a lifelong philanthropist who gave away all he earned and, finally, shot himself

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 Something Understood (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to Annie Castledine and Annabel Arden about their collaboration on Euripides's *Women of Troy*

11.30 Gardeners' Question Time: From members of the Abergele Garden Society (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours: With Tasneem Siddiqi

12.25pm The Chronicles of Clovis: Clovis's Private View. Second of a six-part adaptation by Justin Greene of stories by the Edwardian short-story writer Saki **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One: With Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes: *The Veiled Lodger* is the fourth of six classic mysteries by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, starring Clive Merrison as Holmes and Michael Williams as Dr Watson

2.45 Destination America: Christopher Cook talks to Rose Wyback, the daughter of immigrants, who has lived in New York City all her life

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Brian Sibley sees the 1990s film version of *Little Women*

4.45 Telling Stories: *The Pillos Goose.* Tessa Worsley reads Jane Gardam's story about an enchanting Ethiopian gypsy's visit to the Thanet marshes

5.00 PM: With Chris Lowe and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Counterpoint: Second semi-final of the music quiz conducted by Ned Sherrin (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Art of Travel: Wilfred Thesiger, one of the last great eccentric British explorers, recounts his journey across the vast desert known as the Empty Quarter of Arabia

7.45 Medicine Now: With Geoff Watts (r)

8.15 Fast Foward: Professor John Durant chairs the second of two programmes about developments made within living memory in specific areas of science and technology. *From Radar to Smart Arms* looks at the technology of war

8.45 Opera House: The conductor Jane Glover visits the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (4/6)

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight: With Owen Bennett Jones

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel. Final part of Don Marquis's story

11.00 Listen to the Cinema! David Huckvale explores music in the cinema (r)

11.30-12.00 Jeremy Hardy Speaks to the Nation (FM only): Last of the stand-up comedy series, written by and starring Jeremy Hardy (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to *Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen* and Jane Garvey, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine with Diana Madill, including at **10.35** Euronews; **11.15** Natural History **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** The Cheltenham Festival featuring races at **2.25**, **2.50**, **3.30** and **4.05**. Commentary by Peter Bromley **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** Roundup of the day's sport in full plus the classified racing results **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night: Leicester v Leeds and Southampton v West Ham **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Carole Malone **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

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6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Vivaldi (Bassoon Concerto in E flat) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Gardening Forum (r) **8.00** Evening Concert: Poulenc (Quatre motets pour le temps de pénitence); Lalo (Cello Concerto in D minor); Fauré (Piano Trio in D minor); Duruflé (Requiem) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

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6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Show **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

*All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin* **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *The Inseperable Twins* **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Miles Kington Interview **8.30** Megamix **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Contemporaries of Christ **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** What Is . . ? **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *The Inseparable Twins* **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent **3.30** Quote, Unquote **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Omnibus **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Multitrack: X-Press **12.00** News **12.15am** The Greenfield Collection **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** Farming **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sport **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Assignment **4.00** Newsdesk

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6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Mear and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

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Anything but a trivial pursuit

Can stories of a mountain lion roaming Exmoor be true? **Jack Crossley** remains sceptical after viewing a film on those who have been hunting it for a decade

Mike Hibbard, a slaughterman, is among those attempting to capture or kill 'the beast of Exmoor'

I know an old West Country fisherman whose belief in witches is as strong as his belief in John Wesley. He knows of one who could rid you of warts — or cover you in headlice if you got her on a bad day. "And that's a true tale," he will say emphatically after recounting the lady's many talents.

I also know West Country people who are certain that large and dangerous predatory cats are roaming the land killing livestock.

Channel 4 has been investigating the one they call the Beast of Exmoor, for a film called **The Call of the Beast**. Well, not investigating exactly, but having a cheerful romp around Exmoor pointing cameras at the believers. What we end up *with is a skilful display of how to* make an entertaining 60 minutes out of material which could be condensed into half the time.

After all, no one has yet come up with any hard evidence, and people have been trying since the early 1980s. There's a man from the Ministry of Ag who has got £28,000 of taxpayers' money to spend investigating any half-decent claim, and he has dismissed every piece of "evidence" yet produced.

So, how does a television crew go about investigating a beast which no-one has captured on film and which has been variously described on a local radio show called *Beastwatch* as a puma, a panther, a lynx, a bobcat and even a bear.Do you scare the punters to death? Or have them rocking with mirth at dotty goings-on.

A bit of both, actually. Lots of full moons with wispy clouds scudding across the sky. And log fires throwing sinister shadows. Lots of frightened-looking sheep (what other kinds are there?)

A man who sounds surprised that his wife wants him to go outside when he is swilling animal droppings around in the kitchenware. Then a lady who heard a horrible scream in the night and says "It was a winter's night, in the early hours of the morning. It woke me from my sleep and I raced to the window. It wasn't a fox. It wasn't an owl. It wasn't a cow."

With the call ringing in her ears she ran to her piano and captured the pitch over three or four notes which are used with chilling effect in the programme. "It makes your back hair stand on end."

Switch suddenly to an animal welfare worker out on the moors in the black of night. Sitting alone by a flickering camp fire, she plucks a guitar and plays the notes captured by the frightened lady.

"That", she says, and by golly she does sound serious, "is the sound a big cat makes at night." No one has ever recorded this — other than as variations on piano and guitar.

Encounters:
The Call of the Beast
C 4, tomorrow, Sunday, 7pm

It is difficult to make Exmoor look eerie on a beautiful summer's day. But you can. Lie on your back in a copse. Point the lens of your camera at the sky and wave it about. The trees look a mile high and appear to be alive and I don't just mean alive, I mean menacingly alive. Coo-er!

What the moors *are* alive with are unsuccessful big cat hunters. People bumping over the moors in four-wheel drives, with rooftop video cameras peering over hedgerows like one-eyed Daleks. Men dressed up like camouflaged paramilitaries humping the kind of cameras used when the paparazzi want intimate pictures of the Princess of Wales. And one gentleman equipped to outgun Sylvester Stallone.

His armoury includes a 308 rifle accurate to 350 yards; a .44 Magnum; a pump action rifle shotgun; a bandarillo of bullets, as normally seen on Mexican bandits; a Magnum pistol. It was irresistible here to have a close up of a revolver chamber being spun just like Clint Eastwood does it . . .

And the drama when a beast hunter finds a narrow, shallow cave and sends his dog in first. The canine coward scuttles out. Our hero goes in nevertheless: "Very weird in here. Quiet. I don't like it. It's giving me the willies. I'm not going much further. I'm scared. I'm getting out of here. Bugger me, let's get out of here."

He scuttles out — leaving behind the camera man who was in there filming him coming in.

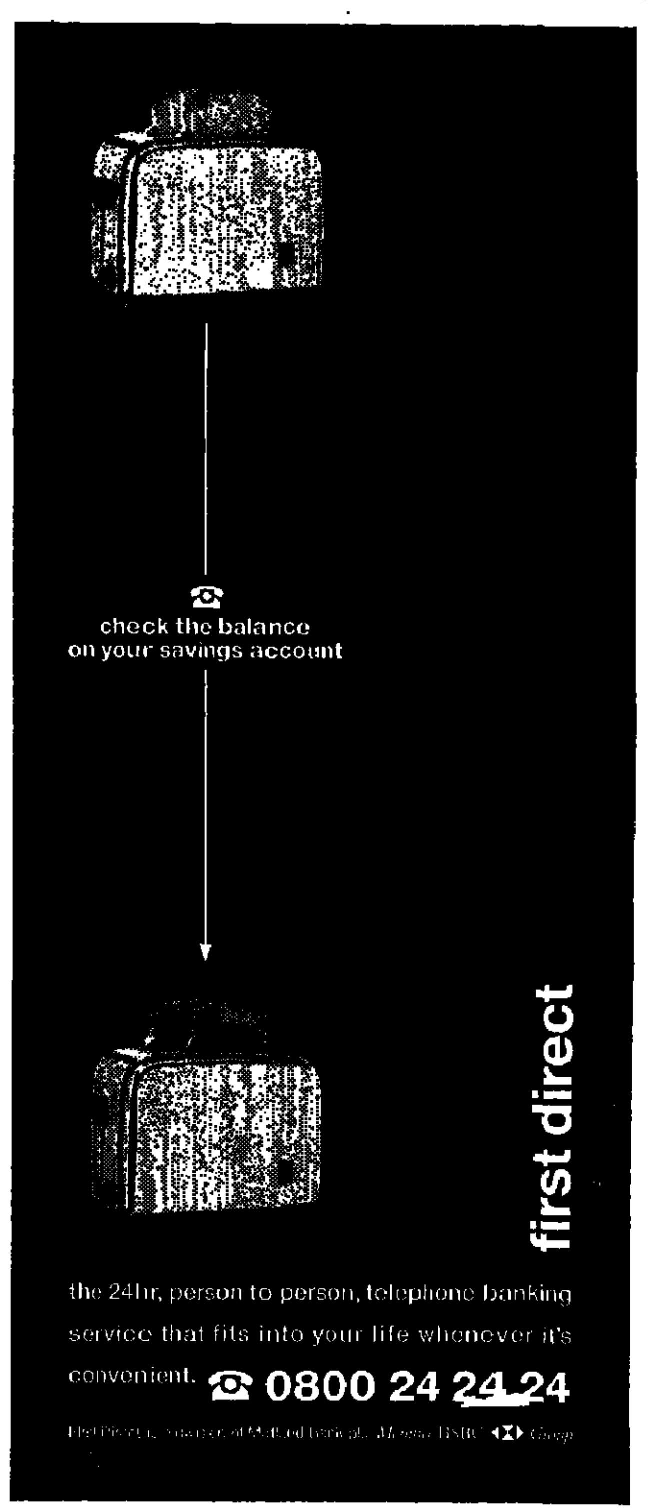
Then there's this former poacher, straight out of *Last of the Summer Wine*. (Why are all the poachers you meet *former* poachers?) It's night again. Another crackling camp fire. He's got a couple of lurcher-like dogs who do not look as though they will ever be former lurchers. He is convinced there are big cats around. But so what? "They don't do very much harm. Anyway, the farmers are all insured."

There is a determined chap who drags an onion sack full of tinned cat food behind him. Leaving a trail along woodland paths and also the pavements of a council estate. No cat, large or small, follows him.

Perhaps the comic highpoint comes when camera crew meets Exmoor hunt. The mounted master of the hunt, Diana Scott, says: "We hunt these moors six days out of seven. And I am quite certain that if there was any form of beast we would find it. The story has been going on for years. Perhaps we can put some of it down to alcohol."

A lady who knows her moors and her mores. All that remains to be said is that *The Call of the Beast* relies entirely on the spoken words of the locals. There is no narration. No expert analysis. No conclusions. Very wise.

Nigel Brierly, a retired biologist, is one of those who has seen a large wild cat on Exmoor, an area he has studied for 12 years



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TIMES EXPERTS PREVIEW THE WEEK OF VIEWING

Glory so far

ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

OF ALL Hollywood's current leading ladies, Jodie Foster is the one who seems absolutely in control of her own destiny. My words will probably be the kiss of death, and she may reveal next week that she had her millions stashed with Barings. However, she excites admiration for tackling extremely controversial roles (*Silence of the Lambs*, *The Accused*), and for her single-minded determination. In tomorrow night, Sunday's **South Bank Show** (ITV, 10.15pm) she talks about her acting career (stretching back to the age of three), and her gradual move from acting to directing. This month she is up for her third Oscar, an extraordinary record for somebody who is only 32.

Contrasting music on Channel 4 this weekend: tonight, Saturday, a new "live music show" called **The White Room** (a reference, apparently to the "no frills, only the music" format), opens with an appearance by Stevie Wonder (10.05pm; see the feature, page 5); while tomorrow, Sunday, the latest of Channel 4's TV **Operas** brings a work by jazz luminaries Kate and Mike Westbrook. Their opera, *Good Friday 1663* (9pm), is a wry evocation of an unhappy 17-year-old bride in 17th-century Suffolk; Kate Westbrook sings nearly all the roles.

Finally, note that one of the manifold delights of Friday's **Comic Relief** night (BBC 1) will be an ongoing fantasy on the adult life of Oliver Twist, called *Oliver 2 — Let's Twist Again* (beginning 7.25pm, then 8.05pm and 9.35pm). The presence of Ron Moody and Oliver Reed will evoke shades of *Oliver!*; the cast also includes Diana Rigg, Jeremy Irons, Alan Cumming and Michael Palin.

Jodie Foster is interviewed in *The South Bank Show*

Only truth will do

SCIENCE

NIGEL HAWKES

FAKING it may be permissible on occasions, but please don't do it in the laboratory. **Horizon** (BBC 2, Monday, 8pm) looks at the evidence that scientists and doctors have distorted research results, the ultimate sin in a profession that relies on honesty. *Horizon* provides examples of cheating in surgery, chemical pollution, Aids, and new treatments for mental patients.

In tribute to Gerald Durrell, who died last month, Channel 4 is repeating **To the Island of the Aye-Aye** (today, Saturday, 8pm) which documents a 1991 trip to Madagascar to capture a rare lemur. A fine writer and friend to species at risk, Durrell will be missed. What would he have made, I wonder, of **The Call of the Beast** (Channel 4, tomorrow, Sunday, 7pm; see the feature, page 3), which attempts to track down the wild cats of Exmoor? No chance of them becoming extinct so long as newspapers exist.

Modern Times (BBC 2, Wednesday, 9pm) proclaims a landmark by showing a Dutch "mercy killing" in which a 62-year-old man with an incurable disease is sped on his way by a doctor with a hypodermic. **The Late Show** (BBC 2, 11.15pm) debates the issues raised, under the soothing chairmanship of Michael Ignatieff.

More fun might be had from **Public Eye's** look at the heritage police (BBC 2, Tuesday, 8pm). Are the conservation guardians going too far? Point Teresa Gorman MP at the camera and hold your breath.

Gerald Durrell in 1949: see Channel 4, Saturday

Parting time

SOAPS

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

GET ready for a battle of the Titans in this week's **EastEnders** (BBC 1, Monday 8pm, Tuesday 7.30pm, Thursday 7.30pm; omnibus Sunday 1.30pm) as the doughty Arfur Fowler prepares to challenge the equally fearsome Geoff to the Walfordian equivalent of a duel. The object of their quarrels is Michelle, whose father is determined to preserve her dishonour and prevent her getting married.

Considering Arfur couldn't even stand up to Pauline and a frying pan, however, I see our 'Shell with a ring upon her finger, before you can say "Gretna Green". If she moves north of the border maybe she and Geoff could start a spin-off soap, what *Knot's Landing* was to *Dallas*? Next question: how Arfur himself will take his leave of Albert Square.

Not content with bodies under the patio, the scriptwriters on **Brookside** (Channel 4, Tuesday 8.30pm, Wednesday 8pm, Friday 8.30pm; omnibus Saturday 5.05pm) have now decided to litter them liberally through every corner of the close, as a mystery virus strikes. Garry from the leisure centre has already been struck down, this week it is George and Audrey's turns to take to their beds.

With Bet still absent, some of the lesser lights in **Coronation Street** (ITV, Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.30pm, repeats Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12.55pm) seem to be falling over themselves to make an impression. Gail is gobsmacked by Martin's confessions and Mid-Life Man Reg discovers that he can't keep the fact of his imminent 53rd birthday under his, um, hat.

Bill Treacher (Arthur in *EastEnders*): losing a fight

The lads are back

REPEATS

JOE JOSEPH

CHANNEL 4 is contributing to the great European debate by giving us another peek at life in Germany, as seen through the eyes of job-seeking builders Jimmy Nail, Kevin Whately, Tim Healy and Timothy Spall in **Auf Wiedersehen, Pet** (tonight, Saturday, 9pm). Norman Lamont couldn't have painted a grimmer picture than scriptwriters Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais. Like Ted Heath before them, Nail & Co dreamt of fat wage packets, luxury hotels, bierkellers and frauleins. They got a stalag hut on a building site miles from Dusseldorf.

If only the lads had thought to get the German hostel to fax over a photo of one of its standard bedrooms before setting off. That's what modern technology is for, although as Tim Hunkin entertainingly tells us in **The Secret Life Of The Fax Machine** (Channel 4, Friday, midday), faxes have been around for longer than you'd imagine. Hunkin, famous for his fact-filled cartoons and for his brilliant robots, is the sort of man who uses semaphore flags to explain the principle of facsimile transmission.

The fax machine was patented 150 years ago, by a Scotsman who built a workable model from animal bones and and metal plates stuck into the ground, a method that has still passed Panasonic and Canon by.

Anyone interested in early vintage Nick Broomfield — the documentary maker who appears in front of his camera as much as his subjects — should stay up tonight, Saturday, for **Chicken Ranch** (Channel 4, 1.20am). Broomfield is in the the Nevada desert, poking his lens into America's most ritzy legalised brothel, where the girls get tired, but not so tired that they will turn down $1,000 a session.

Down Among The Big Boys (BBC 1, tonight, Saturday, 9.15pm), is a different sort of show entirely. Billy Connolly turns from gagster to gangster, playing the lovable Glasgow bank robber, Jo-Jo Donnelly, in a snappy comic plot by Peter McDougall. Don't bother telling Oliver Stone, but you *can* instil an air of violence without spilling blood. When Jo-Jo's daughter marries into a police family, the plot binds the two families in a glue of intrigue and deceptions.

Tim Healy as Dennis in *Auf Wiedersehen, Pet* (C 4)

Jumpers on again

SPORT

LOUISE TAYLOR

THE Cheltenham Festival is arguably the highlight of the **steeplechase** season and Channel 4 takes over television transmission this year. Brough Scott introduces coverage (Tuesday to Friday, see daily listings) from the heart of Jilly Cooper country.

Hurdles of a different kind must be cleared in Barcelona, which stages the **World Indoor Athletics Championships** (*Grandstand*, BBC 1 today, Saturday, 1.15pm, 1.40pm and 3pm). Many leading athletes have opted to give these championships a miss, preferring to prepare for the outdoor season, including Linford Christie, who withdrew only this week.

When Everton and Newcastle last met it was in a most robust match resulting in 10 bookings and two Everton sendings-off. Rivalries are renewed at Goodison Park in the quarter-finals of the **FA Cup** (*Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley* BBC1, tomorrow, Sunday, 2.50pm). The programme concludes with the semi-final draw live from Lancaster Gate. Forty-eight hours later Desmond Lynam is back in the studio presenting live coverage of Tuesday's **European Cup Winners Cup** quarter-final second leg between Chelsea and Bruges at Stamford Bridge (*Sports Night Special*, BBC 1, 8pm). Glen Hoddle's side trail 1-0 from the first leg, played in Belgium.

Will George Graham be watching the *European Match — Live* on Thursday (ITV, 7.20pm)? Presented by Bob Wilson, the programme follows Arsenal, now under new management, as they attempt to become the first club to retain the Cup Winners Cup. To do so they must win another quarter-final second leg in France after being held 1-1 by Auxerre at Highbury in the first leg.

If Arsenal are known for their mixture of caution and aggression, Britain's Herbie Hide has shown everyone his gambling instincts by agreeing to make his first defence of the WBO world **heavyweight boxing** title against America's Riddick Bowe in Las Vegas. Considering that Bowe is a former undisputed champion, Hide appears to have his work cut out in front of the Sky Sports cameras (tomorrow, Sunday, 9.30pm; highlights in *Sports Night Special*, BBC 1, on Monday at 10.10pm).

Herbie Hide: aiming high against Riddick Bowe

SUNDAY MARCH 12

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Neale James **7.00** Clive Warren with the Weekend Breakfast Show **10.00** Simon Mayo's Classic Years **12.00** Kevin Greening, live from London's Hackney Empire, as Radio 1 launches *War of the Roses*, its week of outside broadcasts for Comic Relief **2.00pm** The Steve Edwards Soul Show **4.00** Official UK Top 40 **7.00** The Road Goes on for Ever: Second of three programmes on the lives of touring bands. Edwyn Collins reports on the great rock 'n' roll hotels **8.00** Rock Show: Claire Sturgess introduces Apes Pig and Spacemen in session **10.00** Andy Kershaw, featuring Rooteman from Bradford **Midnight** Mark Tonderai

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Sujata Barot **7.00** Don Maclean **9.05** Michael Aspel **10.30** Hayes on Sunday **12.00** Desmond Carrington with Radio 2 All-Time Greats **2.00pm** Benny Green **3.00** David Jacobs with Sounds Easy **4.00** Legends of Light Music: Orchestral favourites (5/6) **4.30** Sing Something Simple **5.00** Charlie Chester with Sunday Soapbox **6.30** Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties **7.00** Richard Baker with Melodies for You **8.30** Sunday Half Hour, from Kelso Old Sprouston Parish Church, Scotland **9.00** Alan Keith **10.00** Cult Culture with the Radio 2 Arts Programme. See Pick, left **12.35am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Women's Studies — Mothers and Daughters
6.55 Weather
7.00 Sacred and Profane, with Paul Guinery. Purcell (Save me, O God); Howells (Violin Sonata No 1); Mozart (Symphony No 36 in C, Linz); **8.00** *The Great Thanksgiving*: The Rev Alan Walker explores music for the Eucharist as it begins to emerge from the sanctuary; **8.37** Schumann (Overture, Scherzo and Finale)
8.55 Choice of Three: The film-maker Ken Russell previews the week ahead on Radio 3
9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning: Verdi (Overture, La Battaglia di Legnano); Bach (Harpsichord Concerto in F minor); *Composer of the Week*: Wagner, arr Liszt (Spinning Chorus, Der Fliegende Holländer); **9.31** *Artist of the Week*: Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone, sings Donizetti (Di tua beltade immagine, Polluto); **9.37** Barber (Adagio for strings); Ernest Tomlinson (Suite of English Folk Dances); **10.03** Debussy (Prélude; Menuet, Suite bergamasque); Georg Druschetzky (Partita in D); Finzi (Dies natalis); **10.47** Michael Torke (Bright Blue Music); Saint-Saëns (Two choruses); Mompou, orch Rosenthal (Suburbis); **11.25** Beethoven (String Quartet in B flat); Debussy (Clair de lune; Passepied, Suite bergamasque); **12.00** Walton, arr Palmer (Major Barbara: A Shavian Sequence for orchestra)
12.15pm Music Matters: Ivan Hewett reviews a new production of Strauss's *Salome* at the Royal Opera House; looks at the art of improvisation; and ask why performers no longer make up their own cadenzas (r)
1.00 Fairest Isle Songbook: Crazy for You. Iain Burnside listens to a selection of mad songs
1.15 Fairest Isle: Sir Malcolm Sargent, 1895-1967. Lyndon Jenkins celebrates Malcolm Sargent's championship of British music
1.45 From the Proms 1994. Dresdent State Orchestra under Colin Davis performs Beethoven (Symphony No 6 in F, Pastoral); Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor) (r)
3.25 A Czech Connection: John McCabe plays fugues and polkas by Reicha and Smetana
3.45 Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Choir of the Age of Enlightenment under René Jacobs perform John Blow (Venus and Adonis); Purcell (Dido and Aeneas)
5.45 Making Waves: Richard Coles reviews Strauss's *Salome* at the Royal Opera House; and Jimmy McGovern's film, *Priest*
6.30 Marjana Lipovsek, contralto, Graham Johnson, piano, play Schubert (Abendbilder; Himmelsfunken; Der Jüngling auf dem Hügel; Nachthymne; Das Mädchen; Der Tod und das Mädchen; Waldesnacht); Mussorgsky (Songs and Dances of Death) (r)
7.30 The Forties — The Sunday Play: No Way Out. See Pick, left
8.50 Music in Our Time: Mark Russell talks to the composer Graham Fitkin
9.55-12.30am Fairest Isle: Choir Works. The conductor Andrew Davis talks about his performance of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, recorded two days ago at Westminster Cathedral with the BBC Symphony Chorus and Orchestra; Holst (The Cloud Messenger: Della Jones, mezzo; London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Richard Hickox)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News; Weather **6.10** Prelude **6.30** News; Brightest and Best, including Bells on Sunday from St Mary Radcliffe, Bristol **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** On Your Farm: See Pick, left **7.40** Sunday **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Jenni Murray speaks for the *Week's Good Cause* on behalf of Womankind, an agency dedicated to supporting women's organisations in developing countries **8.55** Weather
9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service: A series of services for Lent. Dr Elizabeth Stuart talks about *Gospel and Identity* from the University of Glamorgan
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 Mediumwave, presented by Joanna Coles
11.45 Dodwell Rides Out: Christina Dodwell explores the island of Madagascar (3/4)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: This week's castaway is the writer Nigel Nicholson **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend 1.55 Shipping
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Chairman Eric Robson and his panel of experts tackle questions from the Abergele Garden Society
2.30 Mateo Falcone: Dramatised by Peter Mackie from the classic short story by Prosper Mérimée. Mateo Falcone, a legend among Corsican bandits, lives by the creed that honour is sacred. With Jonathan Adams and Jack Klaff
3.30 Pick of the Week, with Christopher Serle (r)
4.15 Analysis: Education in England (r)
5.00 News, Tales from the Back of Beyond (r)
5.30 Poetry Please! 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.15 Feedback (r)
6.30 In Business: Peter Day reports on competition among the world's airlines
7.00 Children's Radio 4: Goldfish the Movie. Betsy Byars's novel, *The Two Thousand Pound Goldfish*, dramatised by Tony Coult (2/3) (r)
7.30 The 1995 Reith Lecturers — Sir Richard Rogers: Cities for a Small Planet. In his concluding lecture, Richard Rogers expands upon his theme of sustainability — a philosophy which puts the needs of future generations first
8.00-10.00 (LW only) **Open University: 8.00** VIPs: Marie Stopes **8.30** Diamonds, Rust and a Handful of Sand **9.00** American Conversations: Walter Mosley **9.20** Language and the Novel **9.40** Developing World
8.00 The Natural History Programme (FM only) (r)
8.30 That's History (FM only) (r)
9.00 Your Place or Mine? (FM only): In *A Harley Street Address*, a south London builder turned hypnotherapist finds it harder than he anticipated to fulfil his dream in nailing his own brass plaque outside a door in Harley Street
9.30 Fast Forward (FM only): Understanding evolution (r) **9.59** Weather **10.00 News**
10.15 Kitchen Cabinet: Susan Marling invites women from the Isle of Dogs to speak their mind
10.45 Foreign Postings: David Brighty, former British Ambassador in Havana, talks about the impact of the 1989 collapse of communism in eastern Europe on Fidel Castro's Cuba
11.15 In Committee, presented by Rob Orchard
11.45 Seeds of Faith: Sylvia Sands considers the spirituality of the Brontë sisters
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.30** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.05** Hot Pursuits **6.30** The Breakfast Programme **9.05** Five Live Sunday, with John Sopel **12.00** Midday Edition **12.15pm** The Big Byte, with Gareth Jones **12.55** Gary Lineker's Sunday Sport: commentary on the FA Cup quarter finals between Manchester United and Queens Park Rangers, and Everton v Newcastle **6.05** Jim and the Doc **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** The Acid Test, with Kate Bellingham **8.00** The Ultimate Preview **10.05** Special Assignment (r) **10.35** Crime Desk (r) **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** Nightcall, with Daire Brehan **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Classic Romance **12.00** Celebrity Choice **1.00pm** Angela Rippon **3.00** Masterclass **4.00** Robert Booth **7.00** Book Browse: John Russell is joined by Lauren Bacall, John Cole and Jan Morris **8.00** Evening Concert, presented by John Julius Norwich. Chicago Symphony Orchestra performs Weber (Invitation to the Dance); Respighi (Fountains of Rome), Tchaikovsky (Violin Concerto in D); Stravinsky (Suite, The Firebird) **10.00** Howard's Week **Midnight** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Mitch Johnson **10.00** Graham Dene **2.00pm** Gary King **6.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Newshour **6.00** News and Features in German **6.30** Weekend **7.00** News **7.15** Medical Notes **7.30** From Our Own Correspondent **7.50** Write On **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News **9.05** Business Review **9.15** Short story: The Stateless **9.30** Folk Routes **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Science **10.30** In Praise of God **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** News and Press Review in German **12.00** Play of the Week: *Half the Picture* **1.00** News **2.01** Guide to the Information Superhighway **2.30** Anything Goes **3.00** News **3.15** Recital **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News and Features in German **5.00** News **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News and Features in German **7.00** Play of the Week: *Half The Picture* **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Printer's Devil **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Review of the Year **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Guide to the Information Superhighway **12.00** News **12.15am** The Miles Kington Interview **12.30** In Praise of God **1.00** News **1.01** Garrison Keillor's Radio Preachers **1.45** Medical Notes **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Loos Janáček **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Anything Goes **4.00** Newsdesk

TALK RADIO

6.00am Pick of the Week **7.00** Dan Ehrlich **10.00** Vanessa Feltz **1.00pm** Nancy Roberts **3.00** Success **4.00** Gary Newbon **7.00** Terry Christian **10.00** Jeremy Beadle **1.00-6.00am** Nick Miller

MONDAY MARCH 13

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo, **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, beginning the countdown of the IFM/MRIB Artists Chart, and including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat and at **1.15** The Net, music and entertainment news **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier featuring The Amazing Spiderman, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Alan Parker with sketches and punk-influenced songs from The Truth **10.00** Mark Radcliffe with guests, live music, words and comedy **Midnight** Lynn Parsons with music to take you through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Special. Extended edition previewing the 1995 Radio 2 National Big Band Competition **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz **10.00** Adventures in Jazz, with guest singer Pat Kane **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather with *Jazz* Notes **1.00** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University 6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air. Marini (Sonata in Ecco with three violins, Op 8); Dukas (Poème dansé: La péri); **7.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 74 No 1); **8.05** Vivaldi (Mandolin Concerto in C); Mendelssohn (Frühlingslied, Op 71 No 2, Frühlingslied, Op 34 No 3); Bach (Partita No 3 in A minor, BWV 827)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Wagner — The Apprentice Years. Wagner's early compositions including Overture: Rule Britannia; Cantata: Nikolay; Symphony in E; Overture: Beim antritt
10.00 Musical Encounters: Bridge (Coronation March); **10.08** *Artist of the Week*: Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone. Rossini (Largo al factotum, Il barbiere di Siviglia); **10.19** Schumann (Waldszenen, Op 82); Locatelli (Violin Concerto in G, Op 3 No 9, L'arte del violino), J.C. Bach (Symphony in E flat, Op 18 No 1); Bax (Symphony: Spring Fire)
12.00 Singing in the Ruins: Richard Osborne recalls the struggles and triumphs of the Vienna State Opera Company after the bombing of the Opera House in 1945 until the reopening in 1955. With music from operas by Mozart and Strauss
1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London, the Chilingirian Quartet performs Hugh Wood (String Quartet No 4); Beethoven (String Quartet in F minor, Op 95)
2.00 Schools: 20th-Century Soundbites **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama
3.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic strings section under Dmitri Sitkovetsky performs Shostakovich (String Quartet No 3)
3.45 Dutch Royal Organs: Gert Oost plays music from the Dutch Royal House archives
4.30 Time and Changes: Stan Tracey, jazz pianist and composer, talks to Geoffrey Smith
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson investigates the role of the composer in wartime
5.15 In Tune: Mozart (Piano Sonata in C); Schumann (Three Romances for oboe and piano, Op 94); Glazunov (Violin Concerto in A minor); Verdi (Laudi alla Vergine Maria, Quattro pezzi sacri)
7.30 EBU International Concert Season, live from the House of Culture, Helsinki. Anssi Karttunen, cello, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra under Jukka-Pekka Saraste. Dallapiccola (Three Questions and Two Answers); Tan Dun (Cello Concerto, first performance); **8.20** It's a Question of Answers: What do ice-breakers do in summer and why are Finns so silent? **8.40** Magnus Lindberg (Aura, first European performance)
9.15 Britain in Pictures: Michael Carney reads from Leo Walmsley's *British Ports and Harbours*
9.35 Schubert: Moments musicaux, Nos 1-3 (Ian Lake, piano)
9.50 New Waves: Albion Brass Consort performs Frigyes Hidas (5 x 5); Vagn Holmboe (Brass Quintet, Op 79); Benedict Mason (Brass Quintet, first broadcast performance)
10.45 Mixing It: Highlights from last Saturday's New Aura concert
11.30-12.30am ***Music Restored***: From the 1994-1995 Early Music Network season
1.00-2.40 Night School: Triple Bill — *The Haunting* 1 **1.30** Come and Praise Special **2.00** French 14-16: Radio Relax

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with Abdul Hakim Murad **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55**, Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** History File: Stuart Simon looks back over nearly 20 years with Radio 4's *File on 4* and asks: is anything ever new in the news? **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week: Melvyn Bragg talks to Frank Tipler, mathematical physicist, about the existence of God
10.00-10.30 News; Wordly Wise (FM only): Panel game chaired by Peter Hobday
10.00 Daily Service (LW only): from the Cathedral Church of St Andrew, Wells
10.15 Something Understood (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580-4444
12.00 News; You and Yours: With Dare Brohan
12.25pm Counterpoint: Second semi-final of the music quiz **12.55 Weather**
1.00 The World at One. With Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Tree of Liberty: First of a four-part detective series by Nigel Baldwin, set in 1791 Amiens. With David Calder and Brian Hibbard
3.00 The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Nathalie Wheen sees a new production of Richard Strauss's opera *Salome* at Covent Garden, and *Immortal Beloved*, a film about Beethoven starring Gary Oldman
4.45 Telling Stories: Gillian Bevan reads *Poor Old Man* by Clare Boylan (r)
5.00 PM: With Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The News Quiz: Barry Took chairs the topical game show (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme: Presented by Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Untold Secrets. Elizabeth Mansfield's play portrays the relationship between two sisters and the impact of revelations made by one of them on the life of the other. With Belinda Sinclair, Michelle Newell and Fiona Christie
9.00 Dr Burney's Travels: The last of four programmes charting the music historian's tours of Europe in the 1770s, with Timothy West as Charles Burney. Dr Burney hears Frederick the Great play the flute and defends the outlandish modern music of C.P.E. Bach
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight: With Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel. Don Marquis's story about Archy, a poet reincarnated as a cockroach, abridged in eight parts (6/8)
11.00-11.30 Eureka! (FM only): Dr Mary Archer joins Barbara Myers to discuss her research in photochemistry (r)
11.00 Education Matters (LW only), presented by *Times* columnist Libby Purves
11.30-12.00 The Vacillations of Poppy Carew (FM only): A six-part dramatisation of Mary Wesley's novel, with Beattie Edney (4/6) (r)
12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, including at **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Actuality **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide, with Julian Worricker **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** Voices of the Old Firm: the story of the rivalry between football clubs Rangers and Celtic **8.05** The Monday Match **9.05** Newstalk Special: Education. Phone 01345 909693 **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Litolff (Concerto sinfonique No 3 in E flat: Michael Ponti, piano) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** A to Z of Classical Music **8.00** Evening Concert. Mozart (Flute Quartet in A); Franck (Violin Sonata in A); Scriabin (Piano Sonata No 1); Brahms (Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op 115) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *The Inseparable Twins* **7.30** About Face **8.00** News **8.10** Queen's Message to the Commonwealth **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Replace a Disc **9.30** Learning World **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Guide to the Information Superhighway **10.30** Vintage Chart Show **11.00** News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Queen's Message **12.15** My Music **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *The Inseparable Twins* **2.45** Miles Kington Interview **3.00** News **3.15** Commonwealth Day Observance **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business **5.15** BBC English **6.00** News **6.30** Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Essential Qur'an **7.45** Health **8.00** News **8.10** Queen's Message to the Commonwealth **8.15** World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Multitrack: Hit List **12.00** News **12.15am** A Jolly Good Show **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** My Music **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** News

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

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SATURDAY MARCH 11

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Neale James with the Weekend Early Show **7.00** Clive Warren with the Weekend Breakfast Show **10.00** Danny Baker with the Weekend Morning Show **12.00** Kevin Greening. Call 0171-637 4343 to make a request **2.00pm** Johnnie Walker, including at **3.30 In Concert** The Brand New Heavies **5.00** John Peel, featuring sessions from Gorki's Zygotic Mynci, and the Orchids **7.00** The Lovegroove Dance Party, with Danny Rampling. Including live results of the National Lottery **9.00** The 1FM Rap Show with Westwood **12.00 Essential Mix**: On Girls' Nite, guest DJ Lisa Loud presents a distinctive mix of progressive American House

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Brenda Emmanus **6.00** Sujata Barot **8.05** Brian Matthew with Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Judi Spiers **12.00** Hayes on Saturday **1.30pm** The Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise Show (r) **2.00** *Martin Kelner* on Saturday **4.00** Nick Barraclough **5.00** Gallagher and Lyle In Concert, recorded in 1979 **6.00** Well Above Average: the Continuing Story of 10CC **7.00** Comedy Classics: *Listen to Les* (r) **7.30** Bob Holness Presents . . . Farewell to Paris. See Pick, right **9.30** David Jacobs **10.00** Sheridan Morley with the Radio 2 Arts Programme **12.05am** Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties (r) **12.35** Charles Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Developing World
6.55 Weather **7.00 Record Review**, presented by Richard Osborne. Mendelssohn (Overture, The Hebrides, Fingal's Cave); Holst (Invocation). Henry Cowell (Concerto grosso); Brahms (Sonata in F minor, Op 34b); Haydn (Symphony No 55 in E flat, Schoolmaster)
9.00 Building a Library: Lionel Salter reviews *Handel* (Concerti grossi, Op 6); Misha Donat talks about new releases of piano music, including Prokofiev's "war" sonatas by Vladimir Ashkenazy
10.15 Record Release: Ravel (Sonatine: Boris Berezovsky, piano), Chopin, transcr Balakirev (Romanza, Piano Concerto No 1 in E minor: Marc-André Hamelin, piano), Schumann (Kreisleriana, Op 16: Radu Lupu, piano)
11.15 Reissues: Stephen Plaistow on the latest reissues from Testament, including a Brahms cycle and a 1947 recording of Ravel's (L'enfant et les sortilèges)
12.00 Spirit of the Age: George Pratt chairs a discussion about Boethius's theory that music is "number made audible". If that is so, how do we hear those numbers and why have composers from the early Middle Ages to J.S. Bach been so interested in weaving secret number symbolism into *their* work?
1.00 The Forties — Film in the Forties: Wicked Ladies. Third of a five-part series exploring the legacy of the 1940s film industry. Mary Beth Hamilton examines passionate melodramas offered to women. Includes archive interviews with Margaret Lockwood and Patricia Roc
1.20 Celebrity Recital: Linda Ormiston presents a recital of music by Debussy, Copland, Ruth Crawford Seeger and Berg performed by Dawn Upshaw, soprano, and Robin Bowman, piano
3.00 Behind the Masque. In the last of the series, Roderick Swanston talks to the conductor John Eliot Gardiner. With excerpts from vocal music by Lejeune and Rameau. Victoria (Tenebrae Responsories): J.C. Bach (Organ Concerto in F, *Op 7 No 2); Monteverdi (Vespers). Rameau (Les* Boréades); Mozart (Le nozze di Figaro); Schumann (Symphony No 2 in C); Léhar (The Merry Widow)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Geoffrey Smith
5.45 Music Matters: Ivan Hewett reviews a new production of Strauss's *Salome* at the Royal Opera House; looks at the art of improvisation; and ask why performers no longer make up their own cadenzas
6.30 Live from the Met. Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera under James Levine perform Act 1 of Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra*. With Aprile Millo, soprano, as Amelia Boccanegra; Placido Domingo, tenor, as Gabriele Adorno; and Vladimir Chernov, baritone, as Simon Boccanegra; **7.00** Heartbreaks in Sound, with George Jellinek; **7.22** Act 2; **8.25** Singers' Roundtable, with Phyllis Curtin and Marilyn Horne; ***8.50** Act 3*
10.00 The Forties: One Thousand Bombers. On May 30, 1942 1,000 bombers were on their way to destroy Cologne. With the voices of Max Hastings and Noble Frankland
10.30 Out of the Ruins: Shostakovich (String Quartet No 8: The Kronos Quartet)
11.00-12.30am Impressions: Brian Morton introduces a specially recorded set by the planist John Law

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl half-hourly News **6.55**, **7.55** Weather **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day, with David Winter **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
***9.00** News **9.05** Sport on 4, with Cliff Morgan*
9.30 Breakaway: Holiday and travel programme presented by Simon Parkes
10.00 News; Loose Ends, with Ned Sherrin
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster
11.30 Europhile: Tim Whewell, former Moscow correspondent, reports on Russia's education system. Also Bulgaria's living saint, the faith-healer Bab Vanga
12.00 Money Box: Personal finance
12.25pm The News Quiz: Barry Took *returns with the* topical game show. He is joined by *Times* columnist Alan Coren, Francis Wheen, Ian Hislop and Andrew Rawnsley **12.55** Weather
1.00 News **1.10 Any Questions?** Jonathan Dimbleby's guests in Hove, East Sussex, are Anne Applebaum, deputy editor of *The Spectator*; Edward Heath, MP; Lord Jenkins of Hillhead; and Gerald Kaufman, MP (r) **1.55** *Shipping* Forecast
2.00 News; Any Answers? 0171-580 4444
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Naked in the Sun. Bill Taylor's play about a couple who are £60,000 richer after selling the story of their child's abduction and return to a Sunday tabloid
3.45 Getting to Know the Admiral: Jan Morris talks about her 40-year obsession with Lord "Jacky" Fisher, Admiral of the Fleet and architect of the Royal Navy that fought the First World War
4.00 News; That's History, with Roy Porter
4.30 Science Now, presented by Peter Evans
5.00 File on 4: Stuart Simon reports (r)
5.40 Footnotes: Martin Wainwright celebrates the achievements of figures neglected by history. Cyril Davies, the founding father of modern British rock **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.25 Week Ending (r)
6.50 Postcard from Gotham: Joe Queenan presents more insiders' views from New York
7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature: Some Enchanted Evening with Bryn Terfel. The opera singer talks to the pianist Iain Burnside, and joins him in a selection of songs
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Mamma Decemba. Nigel D. Moffatt's award-winning play about a woman from *Britain's black community who has* just lost her husband. With Mona Hammond, Angel Wynter and T-Bone Wilson (r)
9.20 Music in Mind, with Brian Kay
9.50 Ten to Ten, led by the Rev Tony Burnham, general secretary for the United Reformed Church **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The New Recruit: Marigold Barker bought bras and corsets for Harrods in the 1950s and 1960s. She discusses the merits of rubber versus lycra with Louise Garner, the current lingerie buyer (r)
10.30 Murder Before Midnight: Going Wrong, by Ruth Rendell. Guy is obsessed with the classy Leonora, and determines if he cannot have her for ever, nobody will. With Peter Wingfield and Oona Beeson. Dramatised by Robert East
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.05** Dirty Tackle **6.30** The Breakfast Programme **9.05** Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker, including at **10.15** Look Sharp **11.05** Special Assignment **11.35** Crime Desk **12.00** Midday Edition **12.15pm** Sportscall **1.05** Sport on Five, with Ian Payne. Football, coverage of the FA Cup quarter-finals; Rugby League, quarter-finals of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup. Athletics: World Indoor Championships from Barcelona. Plus a preview of the WBO heavyweight title fight between Herbie Hide and Riddick Bowe **6.05** Six-O-Six, with David Mellor **7.35** Saturday Edition, with Richard Dallyn **9.05** Asian Perspective, with Mo Dutta **9.35** Out This Week **10.05** The Treatment, with Stuart Maconie **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Classic Countdown, with Paul Gambaccini **12.00** Gardening Forum **1.00pm** Angela Rippon **3.00** The Saturday Alternative, with Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic America at the Met **7.00** World Opera Season. Wine, Women and Song. Tony Scotland introduces a performance of Rossini's (L'Occasione fa il Ladro) **10.00** The Classic Quiz, with Quentin Howard **Midnight-6.00am** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Mitch Johnson **8.00** Breakfast Show Greatest Hits **10.00** Richard Skinner **2.00pm** Gary King **6.00** Paul Coyte **10.00** Back 2 Back **2.00am** Howard Pearce

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Waveguide **7.25** Book Choice **7.30** People and Politics **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A Jolly Good Show **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Worldbrief **9.30** *Development '95 **9.45** Sport **10.00** Printer's Devil* **10.15** Letter from America **10.30** Waveguide **10.40** Book Choice **10.45** From the Weeklies **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: Alternative **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.01** Sportsworld **3.00** News **3.15** Sportsworld cont. **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.01** Classified Football Results **5.05** Waveguide **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.01** Garrison Keillor's Radio Preachers **7.45** From the Weeklies **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Development '95 **8.30** Jazz **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Words of Faith **10.10** Book Choice **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** That was the Year... **12.00** News **12.15am** Good Books **12.30** Play of the Week: *Half the Picture* **2.00** News **2.30** About Face **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** From Our Own Correspondent **3.50** Write On **4.00** News

TALK RADIO

6.00am Pick of the Week **7.00** Maurice Dee **10.00** Dr David Starkey **1.00pm** Gary Jacobs **3.00** David Freeman **6.00** The World's Biggest Quiz **7.00** Janet's Planet **10.00** The Other Side **1.00-6.00am** Nick Miller

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sartre as he should be

DAVID GRAEME-BAKER

Hellish trio: (left to right) Imogen Stubbs, Ciaran Hinds and Zoë Wanamaker in *No Way Out* (Radio 3)

The generation that grew up in the 1960s is frequently shortchanged in media retrospectives, which dwell on the relative superficialities of student protest, drugs, sex and the Beatles.

There was also a certain amount of serious business afoot, even if these earnest matters had a tendency to be discussed on the fringes of student protest, drugs, sex and the Beatles. There was, you see, this chap called Jean-Paul Sartre.

I was a follower of the French existentialist before I had read or heard anything he wrote and before I knew exactly what existential meant. Existentialism had a certain cachet in the early 1960s, especially in the company of girls, assisted by the fact that, whatever it meant in detail, existentialism had a certain vagueness that did not get in the way of owning a *property or asking for a rise.*

Sartre wrote several books explaining his beliefs, at least one of which I nearly managed to finish, but it is his plays which shine the brightest light on his philosophy and none more so than **No Way Out** (Radio 3, tomorrow, Sunday, 7.30pm).

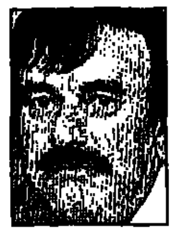
This is an excellent production in the BBC's Towards The Millennium Forties season, a mouthful of a series title which should not put us off. *No Way Out* (originally *Huis Clos*) was first performed in 1944 when the Germans still clung to Paris and it got past the Nazi censors because . . . because they were too stupid to understand its metaphors.

The theme is bad faith, meaning the manifest betrayals of political diktat, versus individual freedom, which is at the core of existential belief. Nominally the play is set in Hell, where a child murderess (played by Zoë Wanamaker), a political coward (Ciaran Hinds) and a lesbian (Imogen Stubbs) confront their own and eachother's inadequacies. This is tough, vicious drama but gripping *and thought-provoking, too.*

If the 1940s Paris of Sartre is too much, try the 1940s of the dear old BBC itself in a piece of justified introspection called **Farewell to the Paris** (Radio 2, tonight, Saturday, 7.30pm) which marks the end of the corporation's 40-year association with the Paris theatre in Regent Street, London.

It has been the home of radio comedy, now returning to Broadcasting House, for all that time and I would bet that thousands of readers have felt a *frisson* at the arrival of tickets for the Paris, perhaps to *see Hancock's Half Hour* or *The Navy Lark* or, more recently, *The News Huddlines.* Bob Holness introduces a programme laden with talent nurtured in the theatre, where the Beatles recorded some of *Live at the BBC.*

You will have gathered already that there is an awful lot of nostalgia about this coming week, belying the Sam Goldwyn remark that nostalgia ain't what it used to be, and there is more in **Cult Culture** (Radio 2, tomorrow, Sunday, night, 10pm) in which the media analyst *Peter Fiddick attempts to* explain and define cult television.



Peter

Barnard

recommends

Inevitably, part of the focus is *Star Trek*, the remarkable phenomenon whose original half-dozen episodes have turned into a worldwide cult in which Trekkies boldly split the most famous of infinitives to boldly go anywhere other Trekkies feel inclined to hold a convention.

The question about *Star Trek, Thunderbirds, Danger Man* et al is whether these shows live on because their modern equivalents lack thre same audience appeal or whether such cultism is more or less manufactured for commercial purposes. One wonders how long it will be before *Eldorado* (just sold to Russia, heaven help them) is back as a cult, complete with several movies and a T-shirt.

The National Trust, celebrating its centenary, is an institution easily derided for its somewhat sanitised view of what constitutes the countryside, but second thoughts are necessary when one considers the alternatives, which include Peter de Savary being allowed to turn Land's End *into a monstrosity.*

On Your Farm (Radio 4, tomorrow, Sunday, 7.15am) is not a programme many people outside the farming community wake up for, but tomorrow's show has the merit of being a straight interview with Sir Angus Stirling, director-general of the Trust, in which we should get some idea of the direction the Trust intends to take now.

Incidentally, *On Your Farm* is a programme more people ought to hear, but it goes out too early on a Sunday, even for most farmers. Schedulers please note.

Last but not least, I will risk accusations of mildly incestuous behaviour by mentioning a *new series called* **Speaking as an Expert** (Radio 4, Friday, 8.50pm) in which Laurie Taylor, who used to occupy this space, attempts to become an expert in various roles after a mere week on the job.

He starts with food writing, which strikes me as one of the sillier occupations on the planet, though less so after hearing Taylor: "I can flannel for hours about existentialism, post-modernism and the crisis in post-industrial capitalism, but rice! Rice defeats me". Flannel about existentialism? This is where I came in.

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: *198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6;* LW 198. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LONDON RADIO:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **TALK RADIO:** MW 1089, 1053kHz. **Television and radio listings compiled by Gillian Maxey, Linda Galloway, Sarah Harding, Peter Dear, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson**

Live and kicking and played straight

Tony Patrick meets the makers of a new live music programme in which nothing will come between audience and performers

Stevie Wonder: the singer and multi-instrumentalist, rarely seen on British television, headlines the first *White Room* show

Today, Saturday, Channel 4 launches a new popular music series called **The White Room**. Four or five different bands or solo acts will be featured, and there will be either archive film of, or a live appearance *by, a name from the past.* Each show will be recorded on Friday in a custom-built studio in west London, and edited for transmission on Saturday (repeated Wednesday).

The studio is painted white throughout, and amplification and sound monitoring equipment has been built into each stage: with no visual distractions, the acts will stand or fall on their music.

The line-up for the first show is dominated by Stevie Wonder, whose last live appearance on British television that I can recall was singing *I Just Called To Say I Love You*, in 1984. He is promoting *Conversation Peace*, his first non-soundtrack album since 1987, and his best since *Hotter Than July.*

Joining Wonder will be Sleeper, *Skunkanansie, Ultimate Kaos* joining singer P.P. Arnold for *The First Cut Is The Deepest*, and The Orb. Names approached and in some cases already pencilled in for later shows include Paul Weller, Aretha Franklin, Oasis, Bruce Springsteen, Rod Stewart, Seal, the Stone Roses, Belly, Little Axe and Scott Walker.

Geoff Wonfor, the director, who is also engaged on the project which has reunited the surviving Beatles, promises that nothing will get in the way of the music: "I want clear-cut shots, with prime, fixed lenses. When we did *The Tube*, we introduced hand-held cameras, but now I want to use dollies and trucks, no shots over the audience. Too often, trickery is only to make up for shoddy content." There will be seven cameras in all.

The presenter is Mark Radcliffe, who has a strong following for his Radio 1 late evening show. He is *not* one of the old school, gush and giggle persuasion.

Waldemar Januszczak is the Channel 4 commissioning editor; Chris Cowey is the producer, and Malcolm Gerrie the executive producer. They and Wonfor also brought you *The Tube*, this year's Brits Awards show, and last year's Tina Turner special.

The White Room
today, Saturday, C 4, 10pm

Cowey and Gerrie are clear about their aims. "People want to *listen to the music,*" Gerrie says. "There's a kickback against 'rock 'n' roll' television; there'll be no dry ice, no scaffolding, no putting cameras in vision." Cowey goes on: "We're reclaiming the good, studio-based music show, in the tradition of *Ready Steady Go* and *The Tube*. We're not a video show — you can watch *The Chart Show* or MTV and VH-1 for that. We'll be paying Musicians' Union rates to everyone, and supplying monitors, mixers and lights. If you ask record companies to pay for or supply them, you relinquish control.

"Nor are we trying to do an *In Concert*: even with coverage as good as Channel 4's of Glastonbury, there's no substitute for actually being there. We want to celebrate the fact that we are studio-based, and get something unique. With four or five bands in one place, we're like *RSG* or *Colour Me Pop.*"

The Tube, it may be remembered, first revealed the presentational flair of Jools Holland, whose BBBC 2 show, *Later with*, is a rare current example of honest music television. "I think *Later* is a fine show," Cowey says, "but I hope we can co-exist. And there significant differences. One is that we will have an audience, of about 200 people, which will make a huge difference to how it feels, for viewers and performers. The other is our musical policy. We are a pop show, we want to entertain, and we won't be booking musicians' musicians, playing for music buffs."

A closer relative might be Top of the Pops. "I think Ric Blaxill [the new producer] is doing a good job, kick-starting it again," Wonfor says. "People switch on every Thursday, regardless of what is in the charts, because they know they'll get a good mix of music." Cowie takes up the theme: "People 'graze' when they listen at home, to the Beatles, to James Brown, but also to Pulp, Oasis and Suede, and who may have skeletons in the wardrobe, like a fondness for a heavy-metal guitarist or Abba."

COMIC RELIEF: Robi Dutta on the first Red Nose telethon for two years

Giggle while you give?

Television will be sporting its biggest red nose to date as *the colossus of the telethons* takes over BBC 1 on Friday. It is two years since the last Red Nose Day and this year the organisers are installing 5,000 telephone lines to help raise more than £18 million.

The big night of six hours of comedy and documentaries on BBC 1 is previewed on Wednesday with *Michelle's Story* (BBC 1, 10.20pm). Grants from Comic Relief have helped thousands across the country and this video diary shows a Belfast drug addict who rebuilds her life with its aid.

In *The Big Red Nose Breakfast* (Channel 4, Friday, 7am), the team is hoping to raise £100,000 with appeals to viewers and various stunts. Guests lined up include Lenny Henry and Angus Deayton, while others lingering in bed had better beware: Keith Chegwin could be knocking on their doors.

On Children's BBC, *Children's Comic Relief* (BBC 1, from 3.45pm) includes the Comedy Store Players in a specially improvised *Jackanory* story-telling relay and a spoof of the popular cartoon *The Power Rangers*, transformed into the *Mighty Morphin Flower Arrangers.*

Lenny Henry kicks off the main event (BBC 1, 7pm) at Television Centre in London, then flies to Belfast to host an hour of live comedy from the Grand Opera House featuring Ben Elton, Julian Clary and Jo Brand.

Comic Relief
telephone donations can be made on 0345 910910

After the success of *Martin Chuzzlewit*, Comic Relief present *Oliver 2: Let's Twist Again*, which follows the fortunes of the adult Oliver Twist and his moustache. The black and white spoof stars Diana Rigg, Jeremy Irons, Michael Palin, Oliver Reed and Ron Moody, who appears again as Fagin.

The former Olympic champion Jayne Torvill reprises *Bolero* and *Let's Face The Music And Dance* with Rowan Atkinson in *Torvill and Bean: The Birth of an Ice Legend*. Phil Collins has recorded an alternative version of *Old McDonald Had A Farm*, which features Goldie Hawn as a duck, Emma Thompson as a pig, Hugh Grant as a cat and Desmond Tutu as a sheep. Every hour there will also be a live musical interlude.

Move over Anneka Rice — Ruby Wax is going *On The Rampage*, bribing and blackmailing the public to raise £1 million. The current king of spoofs, Steve Coogan, broadcasts live from his home town of Norwich as Alan Partridge. Dawn French has also teamed up with Victoria Wood for the first time and presents her own show, specially written by Wood.

The laughter is interspersed with wacky ways of getting people to raise money and documentaries to show where the money has gone and where it will go. Wood spent a week living with a family in drought-stricken Zimbabwe, while Richard Wilson visited a refugee camp in Uganda.

The evening closes with a film which viewers can choose, the choice being *Blazing Saddles, Carry On Camping, The Pink Panther* or *Little Shop of Horrors.*

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Indian scenes and rites of passage

SKY ONE

Doesn't

VARIATIONS

OFF THE BOX

All the news that's fit

EXECUTIVES at Yorkshire Television are unlikely to enjoy all of *Deadline*, a six-part Channel 4 series taking a warts and all look at their local nightly news magazine, *Calendar*. The series, starting on March 20 and edited from 250 hours of filming behind the scenes, apparently brings *Drop The Dead Donkey* strongly to mind. Pressure was applied (but resisted) to have the warts, especially sequences filmed during a strike over new working agreements, burnt out. Star of the series is *Calendar*'s presenter Richard Whiteley, who also hosts 4's enduring hit *Countdown*. He refers to Charlotte Milligan, one of the *Calendar* producers, as "Miss Whiplash" and is dismayed, greeting one of the show's guests in the makeup room, to discover that she seems somewhat the worse for drink.

● THE 1964 cult series *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.* is to be made into a movie by Quentin Tarantino. This could mean changes to the show we remember, which starred David McCallum and Robert Vaughn. The legendary clash between the forces of good and evil could become a clash between evil and more evil, requiring frequent scenes of drug-taking and overdose, sex and temper loss. It may be set wholly in a garage (as in *Reservoir Dogs*) with U.N.C.L.E. standing for United Nations Command For Lost Ears (rather than Law Enforcement). T.H.R.U.S.H., the original baddies' organisation might become V.U.L.T.U.R.E. (Villians United Liaison for Torture and Unspeakably Rotten Erotomania). The question is, which role for Harvey Keitel?

Don't all blush

WHEN *Noel's Houseparty* ends this month, embarrassment television continues in the same BBC1 slot with *Confessions*. Here Simon Mayo, one of the few Radio 1 disc-jockeys not yet fired, rewards people in the studio audience with prizes of holidays if they reveal secrets about themselves already spilled by their prankster friends to the show's researchers. The idea, devised by Mayo with Jimmy Mulville and Dan Patterson and made by the till-now alternative comedy company, Hat Trick, follows a similar make-your-friends-squirm slot on radio. When victims confess to things not on Mayo's list or when tables are turned on pranksters, the fun starts. Allegedly.

HILARY KINGSLEY

Six degrees of exploitation

Victoria McKee meets Kay Mellor, whose six-part serial, *Band of Gold*, is about four prostitutes who become friends

GRANADA TELEVISION

Ruth Gemmell as Gina, a battered wife and mother of three driven to risk her life on the streets because of a loan shark

Middle-aged, middle-class matrons lie in wait for the actress Stephanie Coles after each performance of *A Passionate Woman*, currently running in the West End, to tell her how uncannily the tale of a middle-aged woman facing up to a wasted life reflects their frustrations. They seldom pay attention to the dark-haired woman who is sometimes with her. But should they discover her identity they usually gasp "Oh, I thought you would be older," says Kay Mellor, the author of that play and, now, of **Band of Gold**, a six-part drama series about prostitution which she hopes will universalise the experience of a segment of womanhood that is too often hard-done-by.

Not that there's all that much difference, she feels, between wives who sleep with emotionally distant husbands, sometimes out of fear and sometimes simply for the sake of security, and "working girls" in thrall to pimps selling their favours to strangers. *Band of Gold* explores this through studies of wives, mistresses and mothers as a counterpoint to the main plot about the precariousness of prostitution.

That "respectable" women sometimes prostitute themselves is a recurring theme in her work. "It was something I had to work through myself — being controlled by various men in my life — and I suppose in my writing I'm still trying to exorcise that."

She is still married to Anthony, whom she wed 27 years ago when she became pregnant at 16. "We worked things through," she shrugs. "We both came from a very working-class background, from Leeds, where we still live, and were brought up to believe that a woman does certain things like putting the tea on the table for her husband and looking after the children. I see those girls today, and I don't think the battle's won at all: I see me at 16, pushing that pram, with suitcase, shopping bags, etc. And I see the Anthonys going out and working even harder now than my husband did — or feeling impotent because they can't work."

Her husband, a former motor mechanic, is now a social worker, a career he became interested in when Mellor wrote a play called *Paul*, about a mentally handicapped boy. In the mid-1980s, just before *Paul*, she wrote a play called *Climbing Out*. "I guess I was trying to, then," she says. "It was about a man and a woman in a Marriage Guidance Council office, just literally a hammer-out of the male and female situation in a marriage. I can see now that I was trying to clarify for myself what was going on."

Band of Gold
ITV, Sunday, 9pm

It was seeing a young prostitute — a "Sweetie Girl" as she now knows they are called — on a streetcorner in Lumb Lane, the red light district of Bradford, that sparked off *Band of Gold*. "We were on our way to a party but I couldn't stop thinking of that young girl with her mottled blue legs and short skirt, frozen. But while it would have been quite easy to do a series just about Sweetie Girls, I wanted to explore as many women as I could — the middle-class housewife and her husband's mistress [Barbara Dickson]; the woman who has always been doing it and is seemingly in control, but is really screwed up by it [Cathy Tyson]; and a woman who has to go into prostitution in order to pay her bills [Gwen Taylor] and the effect that has on her family and her friends."

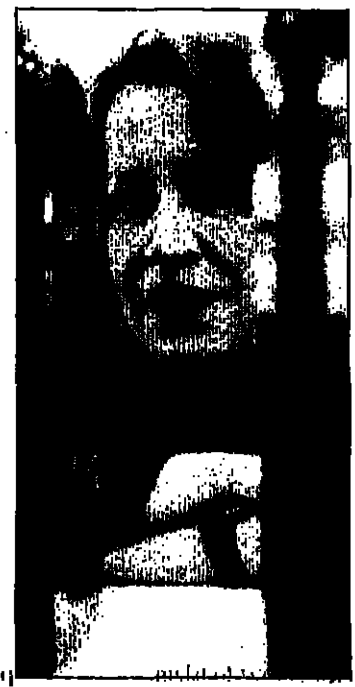
She visited the pubs and streets where northern ladies of the night hung out, but it wasn't easy to find anyone who would talk to her at any length, or more than once, until she met Tria, on whom the character of Carol [Tyson] is based. "Tria, who is now in her late twenties, started on the Lane at 13 and said she was born into it. But it became apparent that she wasn't happy with what she was doing, and subsequently she went into therapy and tried to give up."

She met Tria through working for a telephone helpline andshe also researched with the police, the Social Services, and the Bradford Working Women's Project.

Most of the women she spoke to were with pimps as opposed to madams, like the character in *Band of Gold* played by Geraldine James. "They keep using the phrase 'he looks after me' — I suppose it's like many bad marriages. Sometimes you can see things more clearly in other people. You just can't see it in yourself."

FOOD: **Robin Young** attempts to sort out the virginal from the acidic among olive oils

Pressing business of discovering the best



Food File's Anne Dolamore amid the olive oil bottles

Time was when olive oil in Britain was only sold at chemists, and used for cleaning children's ears. Olive Oil (Oyl) we knew as a cartoon character, the weedy woman constantly requiring rescue by Popeye the Sailorman, whose empowering dietary supplement was canned spinach.

Yet now canned spinach is the weakling, and olive oil goes from strength to strength. Olive oil sales in Britain have multiplied sixfold over the past decade, and at prices from £3.50 to £40 a litre, olive oil now accounts for nearly a third of the vegetable oil we use. The idea has got around that it is olive oil which is good for you, not spinach.

The idea is not exactly right, though, because dark green vegetables are known to be important anti-carcinogens, while olive oil, replete with monounsaturates as it is, is still 100 per cent fat. Best medical opinion is that intake of all fats should be kept within bounds.

If olive oil is good, though, extra-virgin is surely better? Channel 4's *Food File* says so, but it is not quite so simple. In theory, extra-virgin olive oil is the first pressing of olives from a cold press. "Fruit juice", as *Food File*'s expert quite ingenuously describes it.

In practice, however, oils that are called extra-virgin have only to meet the requirement that the finished product's acid content is less than one per cent. There are many ways of achieving that, and not all extra-virgins have the unsullied virtue one might suppose.

Food File
begins on Channel 4
on Thursday at 8.30pm

Strangely, not even an expert would be able to tell you the acidity of an oil by taste or scent. Oleic acid, the distinctive ingredient of olive oil, has many more carbon atoms in its make up than the acids which actually taste acidic. As a result it is virtually insoluble in water, has imperceptible odour, and no taste.

If acid content is no guide to what an olive oil will taste like, neither are colour or country of origin. Colour can be derived from extraneous sources (even the olive trees' own leaves), while to be Italian an olive oil need only be bottled in Italy, and to be Tuscan, bottled in Tuscany.

Italy is the largest exporter of olive oils, but also the largest importer, and there is no way all Italian olive oil could have started out as Italian olives. Even when Tuscan estates, after disastrous frost damage in the groves, had absolutely no olives their estate-bottled and premium-priced oils magically continued to flow.

Supermarkets now afford a bewildering range of olive oils, though, which rather contradicts another of *Food File*'s strands, which tries to argue that supermarkets have destroyed consumer choice. One oil difficult to find on the shelves shares all olive oil's medical advantages, though not its glamorous Mediterranean image or expense.

It is rapeseed oil. Maybe supermarkets are not so keen to stock it, because it is only one-fifth the price of the most modest extra-virgin.

FRIDAY MARCH 17

CHOICE: video diaries from Russia; another 1960s series returns; Comic Relief; missing persons

Life is a struggle for the people of Russia

Oliver 2 — Let's Twist Again (Comic Relief): Michael Palin

Stories of daily life in Boris Yeltsin's Russia are transmitted in **Russian Wonderland** (BBC 2, 9.30pm) with a directness and intimacy made possible by lightweight camcorders. Natasha is a perky and appealing six-year-old who supports her family by going begging on the streets of Moscow. Her main targets are motorists stuck in traffic jams. Few resist her beguiling charm. Natasha, her mother and brother are refugees from Ukraine. Disqualified from state benefits, they share a hotel room with another family. Their dream of their own home seems far away.

The latest BBC raid on Lord Grade's archives brings up **The Champions** (BBC 2, 6.25pm), a daftly enjoyable series from 1968 about a trio of troubleshooters endowed with telepathic powers. They can also see and hear about 100 times better than the rest of us. The dialogue is not superior, though: "Nobody knows whether we're gonna to make it, Sharron", grits Craig (Stuart Damon), " but one thing's for sure, we're soon gonna find out." Alexandra Bastedo plays Sharron, William Gaunt completes the threesome and Burt Kwouk does his standard oriental heavy.

In **The Night of Comic Relief** (BBC 1, from 7pm; see feature, page 5). Torvill and Dean become Torvill and Mr Bean as Rowan Atkinson takes to the ice for Red Nose Day. Look out, too, for Archbishop Desmond Tutu playing a sheep in a celebrity rendition of *Old MacDonald's Farm*. As usual, the star turns are interspersed with reports from the frontline, with Richard Wilson visiting Uganda, Billy Connolly in Mozambique and Victoria Wood in Zimbabwe. The contentious stuff is reserved for later when Jo Brand, Julian Clary and Ben Elton celebrate St Patrick's Night in Belfast.

Fiona Foster and Alastair Stewart reopen the missing persons file in **Missing** (ITV, 9pm), providing peak-time entertainment for the television millions and, perhaps, effecting the odd tearful reunion. The justification for exposing private grief to the public gaze is that ends can justify means. The Green family, at least, would agree. We hear the story of 25-year-old Paul, who disappeared in May last year but turned up after an appeal on a previous programme. Another item is about the growing number of middle-aged men who mysteriously abandon their homes and families.

PETER WAYMARK

BBC1

6.00am **Business Breakfast** (81098)
7.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (95037746)
9.05 **Kilroy** (s)(5188017)
10.00 **News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7573098) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8573901)
10.35 **Good Morning with Anne and Nick** (s) (7825765)
12.00 **News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1331456) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford (s) (7107369) **12.55 Regional News** (Ceefax) and weather (15730475)
1.00 **One O'Clock News** (Ceefax) and weather (51562)
1.30 **Neighbours** (Ceefax) (s) (77484949) **1.50 Crown Prosecutor** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (35644456) **2.20 Holiday** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (74435017) **2.50 The Flying Doctors** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1522272) **3.35 Bugs Bunny** (2823982)
3.45 **Children's Comic Relief** (7057659)
5.00 **Newsround** (6746727) **5.10 Maid Marian and Her Merry Men** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8710123)
5.35 **Neighbours** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (386562) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** (Ceefax) and weather (659)
6.30 **Regional news magazines** (611) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours
7.00 **The Night of Comic Relief: Chris Evans — Don't Forget Your Nose.** (Ceefax) (s) (840746)
7.05 **Old Macdonald** (560098) **7.15 Richard Wilson — Christmas in Africa** (584678) **7.25 Oliver 2 — Let's Twist Again.** Part one of the saga of the boy who asked for more. Oliver is now an adult (573562) **7.35 Wet Wet Wet** (450307) **7.40 Damien's Story.** The first in a series of videos by those who have been helped by the charity (163369) **7.50 Ginormous Ginger Climax** (422524) **8.00 Harry Enfield and his Charity Chums** (573366) **8.05 Oliver 2 — Let's Twist Again.** Part two (419185) **8.30 Torvill and Bean** with Jayne and Mr Bean (472814) **8.45 Billy Connolly's Family Reunion** (687765) **8.50 At Home with the Slobs** (755659)
9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2123)
9.30 **French and Saunders and Much More** (997949) **9.35 Oliver 2 — Let's Twist Again.** (993098) **9.45 Clean, Clean Water.** (906562) **10.00 Eric Clapton and Mick Hucknall** (590165) **10.10 Michelle's Story** (573543) **10.15 Ruby's Million** (572814) **10.20 Snog-a-Thon** (593307) **10.30 Smith and Jones and Madness** (547369) **10.40 Alan Partridge in Norwich** (811456) **10.45 Victoria Wood — Living without Water.** (834307) **10.55 Dawn.** Dawn French plays the new Oprah Winfrey (200307) **11.20 Reeves and Mortimer** (722123) **11.30 Lenny Henry Presents "Belfast Live"** (18253) **12.30am Late and Languid with Jonathan Ross** (92586) **1.00 Comedy Film of the Nation's Choice.** During the evening, viewers will have the chance to vote for one of the following films to be shown *Blazing Saddles* (1974), *Carry on Camping* (1969), *The Pink Panther* (1964) or *Little Shop of Horrors* (1986) (350673)
2.50 **Weather** (3116708)

BBC2

6.20 **Open University:** Physics of Matter — A Macroscopic Viewpoint (7047494) **6.45** Engineering: Linkage Mechanisms (2800678) **7.10** East Meets West: Asian Families, Western Culture (6183524) **7.35** Technology: Eurekaargh! (5793949)
8.00 **Breakfast News.** (Ceefax and signing) (6467659) **8.15 Germany 1925-32** (b/w) (4524814) **8.20 Boating Butler** (r) (3035678) **8.50 A Week to Remember** (b/w) (6024611)
9.00 **Daytime on Two:** Winning (92920) **9.30** Over the Moon: Our Space (5309630) **9.45** Words and Pictures (5304185) **10.00** Playdays (8591307) **10.25** Look and Read (1612543) **10.45** Science Zone — Changes in Material (4845098) **11.05** Space Ark — Changes in Material (6618098) **11.15** See You, See Me: See France (6292678) **11.30** English File: Language and Genre (1630) **12.00** TV6: Nature (89456) **12.30** Working Lunch (29562) **1.00** Scene (59104) **1.30** Q and A (25068920) **1.45** Come Outside (25063475) **2.00** Johnson and Friends (87809272) **2.10** Open View (65603727)
2.15 **Sport on Friday** introduced by Helen Rolleson. World Cup skiing from Bormio, Italy; a preview of the England v Scotland five nations' championship match; and highlights from the world figure skating championship (s). Includes **News** and weather at **3.00** (308678) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8755185)
4.00 **Today's the Day.** Recent history quiz (s) (524)
4.30 **Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (956)
5.00 **Esther.** Studio discussion series (s) (1036)
5.30 **All in the Mind.** Lateral thinking quiz presented by Alison Holloway (s) (388)
6.00 **Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons** (r). (Ceefax) (826746)
6.25 **The Champions: The Beginning.** (Ceefax) (283833). **Northern Ireland:** Schools' Cup Rugby Special
7.15 **The O-Zone.** Pop music (s) (487291)
7.30 **Operavox.** Animated version of Puccini's opera *Turandot*. With the orchestra, soloists and chorus of the Welsh National Opera. (Ceefax) (s) (765)
8.00 **The Photo Show** with Andy Earl and Lana Wong. (Ceefax) (s) (9320)
8.30 **Gardeners' World.** (Ceefax) (s) (6727)
9.00 **Two's Comedy.** A *Comic Relief* special featuring clips from some of BBC2's comedy shows. (Ceefax) (s) (2415)
9.30 **Russian Wonderland.** (Ceefax) (806036)
10.20 **Travel Show — Short Cuts.** Coffee-time in London (591949)
10.30 **Newsnight** with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (455746)
11.15 **Weather** (979104). **Wales:** Welsh Lobby (182758) 11.45 Weather (939746) 11.50 Tribute to Nigel Finch (778369) 12.45am-2.50 Film: Revolution (91021760)
11.20 **Tribute to Nigel Finch: Chelsea Hotel.** A documentary portrait of the famous New York hotel. (Ceefax) (602942)
12.15am **FILM: Revolution** (1985) starring Al Pacino. The story of the American Revolution as seen through the eys of an average man. Directed by Hugh Hudson. (Ceefax) (s) (10543470). Ends at **2.20**

CARLTON/LWT

6.00am **GMTV** (7539253)
9.25 **Chain Letters** (s) (3974185) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8578456)
10.00 **The Time . . . the Place.** John Stapleton presides over the members of a studio audience as they discuss a topic of particular interest to them (s) (7603036)
10.35 **This Morning.** Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26260307) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1320340)
12.30 **ITN Lunchtime News** (Teletext) and weather (2809123)
12.55 **Coronation Street** (r). (Teletext) (2884814) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57791630)
1.55 **The Chrystal Rose Show.** Frank debates with a studio audience (s) (35661123) **2.25 A Country Practice.** Kate meets a mysterious young woman (s) (74438104)
2.50 **High Road** (7958678) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6785017) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6784388)
3.30 **Rosie and Jim** (s) (2840659) **3.45 Warner Brothers Cartoons** (2838814) **4.00 Zzzap!** (r) (s) (8871727) **4.15 Tiny Toon Adventures** (6199814) **4.40 The Geeks.** With guests East 17 and Gladiators, Hunter and Lightning. (Teletext) (s) (9723901)
5.10 **After 5 with Caron Keating** (Teletext) (6954630)
5.40 **ITN Early Evening News** (Teletext) and weather (364475)
6.00 **Home and Away** (r). (Teletext) (813272)
6.25 **London Tonight** (Teletext) (536920)
7.00 **Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right.** The comedian hosts the gameshow where prizes can be won or lost on the turn of a card. (Teletext) (s) (5098)
7.30 **Coronation Street.** Steve plays a dangerous game. (Teletext) (291)
8.00 **The Bill: Alone.** Deakin makes an error in judgement which results in a hostage situation. (Teletext) (4746)
8.30 **The Upper Hand.** Twee romantic comedy starring Joe McGann, Diane Weston and Honor Blackman. Charlie almost brings the house down. (Teletext) (s) (3253)
9.00 **Missing.** Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster appeal for help in finding people who have mysteriously disappeared, plus a look at the growing number of middle-aged men who are vanishing without a trace (6807)
10.00 **News at Ten** (Teletext) and weather (77611)
10.30 **FILM: Klute** (1971) starring Donald Sutherland as a small-town private investigator who becomes obsessed with an abused and neurotic prostitute (Jane Fonda). Directed by Alan J. Pakula (43147562)
12.35am **London Tonight** (Teletext) (5929769)
12.45 **Get Wet** (4059012)
1.05 **The James Whale Show.** Late-night entertainment (s) (6560963)
2.05 **The Chart Show** (s) (6687760)
3.00 **Noisy Mothers.** Rock and heavy metal music magazine (s) (3094012)
3.55 **Cinema, Cinema, Cinema** (s) (8857296)
4.30 **The New Music** featuring Treble Charger and Vanessa Williams (51944)
5.30 **ITN Morning News** (14296). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

5.35am **Spiff and Hercules** (r) (2804494)
7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (41165)
9.00 **You Bet Your Life** (r) (s) (94388)
9.30 **Schools.** Eureka! (5301098) **9.45** Stop Look Listen (5399253) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7580388) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (1628104) **10.25** Eurokids (1623659) **10.40** Off Limits (4835861) **11.05** Schools at Work (6336494) **11.11** Time for Maths (6288475) **11.22** Stage One (6268611) **11.40** Time Capsule (s) (4899659)
12.00 **The Secret Life Of... The Fax Machine** (Teletext) (r) (74524)
12.30pm **Sesame Street** (50185)
1.30 **The Magic Roundabout** followed by **The Wombles, Paddington** and **The Clangers** (r) (13901)
2.00 **Channel 4 Racing From Cheltenham.** Live coverage of the **2.15, 2.50, 3.25** and **4.00** races (s) (199630)
4.30 **Countdown.** Maths and wordplay with Richard Whiteley. (Teletext) (s) (104)
5.00 **Cutting Edge: Casino** (Teletext) (r) (s) (5611)
6.00 **Blossom.** Blossom runs away from home. (Teletext) (s) (369)
6.30 **Moviewatch.** Four young Brummies offer their opinions on *Little Women*, starring Winona Ryder and Susan Sarandon, *IQ* with Tim Robbins and Meg Ryan, *Immortal Beloved* starring Gary Oldman and Isabella Rossellini and *Priest* (s) (949)
7.00 **Channel 4 News** followed by weather (Teletext) (497494)
7.50 **You Don't Know Me But...** Unsolicited advice for an unsuspecting celebrity (s) (448562)
8.00 **Gardens Without Borders: Italy.** Alan Mason and Jill Cowley travel to a truly classical garden in the heart of Verona. (Teletext) (s) (2388)
8.30 **Brookside.** Another chilling message is delivered to the Jordaches. (Teletext) (s) (4123)
9.00 **Ellen: The Trainer.** Ellen gets a workout when she impersonates a physical trainer. (Teletext) (s) (5833)
9.30 **Rising Damp.** Rigsby is told about a new man in Ruth's life and decides to tell her of his feelings. (Teletext) (r) (34494)
10.00 **Roseanne: Bed and Bored.** Roseanne swings the lead and stays in bed in order to gain sympathy and attention. (Teletext) (s) (76253)
10.30 **The Jack Dee Show.** With guest Daryl Hall. (Teletext) (r) (s) (705253)
11.05 **The Word.** A leap into the madding crowd with Terry Christian and guests Alan Connor and Jasmine Dotiwala. (s) (706017)
12.05am **Beavis and Butt-Head** (s) (4262437)
12.35 **FILM: Static** (1985). Quirky satire of small-town America starring Keith Gordon as a young man who goes to extraordinary lengths to get the media to pay attention to his strange invention. With Amanda Plummer, Bob Gunton and Barton Heyman. Directed by Mark Romanek. (108166)
2.15 **FILM: Lord Edgware Dies** (1934, b/w). Austin Trevor as Agatha Christie's sleuth, Hercule Poirot, who uses his "little grey cells" to solve the murder of an elderly aristocrat. Ends at 3.35. (4856166)

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FRIDAY MARCH 17

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (56663) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (22185) **8.30** Blockbusters (21456) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (71123) **10.00** Concentration (63833) **10.30** Card Sharks (34920) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (97388) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (25272) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (74036) **1.00** St Elsewhere (62291) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (64562) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (6090307) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4908475) **3.55** Double Dragon (9565765) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5104) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (5017) **6.00** Murphy Brown (3369) **6.30** Family Ties (7949) **7.00** Rescue (6746) **7.30** M*A*S*H (6833) **8.00** The Andrew Newton Hypnotic Experience (5494) **8.30** Coppers (4901) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger: Action-drama with Chuck Norris (69982) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (99369) **11.00** David Letterman (610746) **11.50** Littlejohn (395185) **12.40am** Chances (3256298) **1.30** WKRP in Cincinnati (79321) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (5560532)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Sunrise (1304611) **9.30** Worldwide Report (12098) **10.30** ABC Nightline (32562) **11.00** News and Business (725104) **1.30pm** CBS News This Morning (84727) **2.30** Parliament Live (46104) **3.30** This Week in the Lords (5727) **4.00** News and Business (56524) **5.00** Live at Five (6240901) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (19200982) **8.00** News and Business (36562) **9.30** O J Simpson Trial Live (445450) **12.30am** CBS News (84578) **1.30** Target (51470) **2.30** Parliament Replay (35321) **3.30** This Week in the Lords (47166) **4.30** CBS News (39596) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (72234)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1254611) **10.00 Robot Wars** (1993): Animated robots battle to save world peace (45524) **12.00 Across the Great Divide** (1977): A conman and two orphans trek across America in search of their inheritance (78765) **2.00pm Norma Rae** (1979): Sally Field, angered by poor salaries in a textile mill, sets about organising support for a union (13349) **4.00 How to Steal a Million** (1966): Romantic comedy caper with Peter O'Toole and Audrey Hepburn (76173746) **6.05 Robot Wars** (1993): As 10am (19237036) **8.00 Love Potion No 9** (1992): Scientists discover a love potion. With Tate Donovan (73402307) **9.40 US Top Ten** (171949) **10.00 Sliver** (1993): Sharon Stone moves into a high-tech apartment building. With William Baldwin and Tom Berenger (476340) **11.50 The American Samurai** (1991): Martial arts action (797017) **1.20am Company Business** (1991): Post-Cold War thriller starring Gene Hackman and Mikhail Baryshnikov (528147) **2.55 Murder on the Rio Grande** (1993): Whitewater rafting thriller with Victoria Principal (3113925) **4.25-6.00 Across the Great Divide** (1977): As noon (611091)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Law and Order (1953) Ronald Reagan as a sheriff cleaning up the small town of Cottonwood (99307) **8.00 Ryan's Daughter** (1970): David Lean's epic adaptation of Robert Bolt's love story (38345982) **10.10-12.15am Christmas in July** (1940): Dick Powell wins £25,000 in a slogan-writing competition (694456)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am If I Were King (1938): Comedy from Preston Sturges about a revolt against King Louis XI led by a roguish French poet. Starring Ronald Colman (28291) **8.00 Les Miserables** (1988): Animated version of Victor Hugo's classic (3631982) **8.50 Oliver Twist** (1986) Cartoon (9139863) **9.50 That Kind of Woman** (1959): Tab Hunter as a soldier who falls in love with socialite's mistress Sophia Loren (29432524) **11.30 Waterhole No Three** (1967). James Coburn stars in this spoof western. With Carroll O'Connor (75376369) **1.10pm Call Northside 777** (1948): Journalist James Stewart campaigns for two innocent men convicted of murder (81507543) **3.00 Danny the Champion of the World** (1991) Jeremy Irons and his real-life son, Samuel, battle evil landlord Robbie Coltrane in Roald Dahl's classic-adventure story (39588123) **4.40 Oliver Twist** (1986): As 8.50am (9852272) **5.30 Overboard** (1987): Energetic comedy in which wealthy Goldie Hawn is claimed by hillbilly Kurt Russell after losing her memory (52307) **7.30 The Movie Show** (9543) **8.00 Solar Crisis** (1992): Sci-fi blockbuster set in the year 2050, when a giant solar flare threatens to engulf the Earth. Starring Tim Matheson and Charlton Heston (98272) **10.00 Bugsy** (1991): Epic drama with Warren Beatty as Bugsy Siegel, the New York gangster who built Las Vegas (20117727) **12.15am Daughters of Satan** (1972): Tom Selleck is strangely drawn to a painting of three witches being burnt alive (109760) **1.50 Coopersmith** (1991) Insurance investigator Grant Show is on the case of a murdered racing driver's wife (4480505) **3.15-4.45 Desperate Justice** (1993): A mother takes the law into her own hands. With Lesley Ann Warren (69088692)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4620727) **7.15** WWF Action Zone (590727) **8.15** Soccer News (2643458) **8.30** Transworld Sport (45661) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (70659) **10.00** Rugby Union (67861) **10.30** ATP Tennis Magazine (30543) **11.00** Andy Gray's Bootroom (11982) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (54123) **12.30pm** Schoolboy Football: Victory Shield — Scotland v Wales (78543) **2.30** Snooker: Kloster Open (64291) **4.30** Transworld Sport (85140) **5.30** World Soccer Magazine (6494) **6.00** Sky Soccer Weekend (82494) **7.00** The Big League. Live: St Helens v Bradford Northern (948681) **9.30** Snooker: Kloster Open (61307) **11.30** Sky Soccer Weekend (89340) **12.30am** The Big League (28760) **2.30-3.00** World Soccer Magazine (64050)

Doesn't she go on a bit?

TRIMMED slightly from its original length but still clocking in at more than three hours, **Ryan's Daughter** (Sky Movies Gold, 8pm) was director David Lean's 1970 vision of a romantic drama, played out in a remote, west of Ireland village in 1916 — wonderful scenery, even though some of it is South African — with a mostly hard-hitting cast, led by Robert Mitchum, Sarah Miles, Trevor Howard, Leo McKern and John Mills. Mitchum is a teacher, and Miles (who was Oscar-nominated for her performance) his flighty wife, whose eye is caught by the younger and more glamorous Christopher Jones as an English army officer. Howard is the tough-as-old-boots local priest, and Mills puts in a dazzling turn as what has to be described as the village idiot. The late Robert Bolt's script is not among his liveliest efforts.

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Max Out (4719123) **6.30** Badminton, Live (1770524) **10.30** Yachting (5438340) **11.30-12.00** Gillette World Sport Special (4227630)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Tennis (20630) **8.00** Snowboarding (46104) **8.30** Freestyle Skiing (38307) **9.30** Nordic Skiing (52630) **10.30** Football (67388) **12.00** Football (55611) **1.30pm** Trial (15611) **2.30** Athletics (86388) **3.30** Nordic Skiing (8748727) **4.20** Live Nordic Skiing (16387982) **6.00** Live Speed Skating (55949) **9.00** News (6388) **9.30** Boxing (77794) **10.00** Report (39901) **11.00** Trial (27543) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (78447)

SKY SOAPS

8.00am Loving (4156253) **8.30** Peyton Place (4155524) **9.00** As the World Turns (4361982) **10.00** Guiding Light (9565369) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9678833)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Australia (4159340) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1382494) **1.00** Ski Perfect (9689949) **1.30** Cook Italian (1381765) **2.00** The Great Escape (7945388) **2.30** Bavaria (4718494) **3.00** American Vacation (4699659) **4.00** Travel Review (4709746) **4.30** Zoo Life (4798630) **5.00** The Great Escape (7929340) **5.30-6.00** Cook Italian (4789982)

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9.00am A Brush with Ashley (2946456) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (5157272) **10.00** Talking Heads (2978630) **10.30** Only Human (3528098) **11.15** Draw with Don (95375123) **11.30** Life is for Living (6511235) **12.00** The Buzz (2969920) **12.30pm** Being There (5168388) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (8548494) **1.30** A Brush with Ashley (5167659) **2.00** Parents Talking (2046949) **2.30** Discovering Psychology (1094727) **3.00** House Style (2027456) **3.30-4.00** Acorn (1099272)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8516253) **7.30** Neighbours (8535388) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2958291) **8.30** EastEnders (2957562) **9.00** The Bill (2948814) **9.30** All Creatures Great and Small (5967098) **10.30** Casualty (1248291) **11.30** Terry and June (4711253) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2968678) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5160746) **1.00** EastEnders (8515524) **1.30** The Bill (5169017) **2.00** My Name is Harry Worth (2040307) **2.30** Triangle (1096185) **3.00** Knots Landing (6616869) **4.00** Dallas (7161974) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9738678) **5.35** The Dick Emery Show (5632938) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (4824307) **6.30** EastEnders (1011494) **7.00** Sweet Sixteen (2044123) **7.30** Father, Dear Father (1017678) **8.00** The Dawson Watch (2020543) **8.30** Fresh Fields (2049678) **9.00** Casualty (9746036) **10.00** The Bill (2969307) **10.30** Miami Vice (6014253) **11.30** Top of the Pops (4284543) **12.05am** Dr Who (5354234) **12.35** FILM: Murder Ahoy (1964): Margaret Rutherford's final outing as Agatha Christie's amateur sleuth, Miss Marple (6062128) **2.15** Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6000727) **6.55** Garfield (7550901) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6558562) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (8633794) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4417388) **8.45** Casper (1616291) **9.00** Sesame Street (44017) **10.00** It's [illegible] (12859) **12.00** Garfield (67811) **12.30pm** Eek (95611) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (84859) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83504017) **1.45** Baby Follies (83592272) **2.00** Barney (6814) **2.30** Babar (6036) **3.00** Casper (1746036) **3.15** Bill and Ted (429830) **3.45** Sonic (428901) **4.15** Head to Head (1342659) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (6272)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4628369) **7.15** Pee-Wee (538727) **7.45** Rugrats (537098) **8.15** Doug (622630) **8.45** Nickalive! (8353036) **9.00** Nick Jr (316098) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (52765) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (72017) **1.00** Smoggies (13340) **1.30** Galaxy High School (71389) **2.00** Alvin (9098) **2.30** Henry's Cat (3920) **3.00** Grimmy (1833) **3.30** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (5765) **4.00** Rude Dog (4272) **4.30** Rugrats (7778) **5.00** Clarissa (3678) **5.30** Odyssey (4036) **6.00** Doug (1949) **6.30-7.00** Afraid of the Dark? (5901)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Earth Tremors (9961956) **5.00** Biography (1125562) **5.55** Only in Hollywood (6727104) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4412272) **7.00** The Orient (2042765) **7.30** Paramedics (1008920) **8.00** Jurassica (2028185) **8.30** Terra X (2030920) **9.00** Around Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (9744678) **10.00** Future Quest (2987949) **10.30** Next Step (2943369) **11.00** First Flights (8511415) **11.30-12.00** The X-Planes (2974814)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Curtain Up (1952): The producer of a seaside repertory company is at loggerheads with a playwright (6924949) **1.30pm** Smothers Brothers (5164185) **2.00** The Avengers (2973185) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2014982) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1093098) **4.00** FILM: Thunder in Carolina (1960): A former stock car racer trains a new protegé to take his place With Rory Calhoun (2025098) **6.00** It's Garry Shandling's Show (1082982) **6.30** The Wild Wild West (1293307) **7.30** Saber of London (1002746) **8.00** The Avengers (9711340) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (3466388) **9.30-12.00** FILM: Lady Caroline Lamb (1973): With Sarah Miles (3767563)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6924388) **7.00** Living (8432746) **8.00** Front Gardens (2839807) **8.30** Rendezvous (3289348) **9.00** All Well and Good (3089140) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7209814) **10.05** Now You See It (4037730) **10.30** Susan Powter (7889104) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (793690) **12.00** A Taste of Wales (6399291) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (46183369) **1.05** Kilroy (8136814) **2.00** Agony Hour (1816562) **3.00** Living (7512524) **3.45** Gladrags (65012369) **4.00** Infatuation UK (9139543) **4.30** Crosswits (9135727) **5.00** Mediterranean Cookery (3351340) **5.35** Mr and Mrs Show (7966920) **6.05** The Susan Powter Show (6208494) **6.30** Infatuation (9130272) **7.00** Living (9689746) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9698494) **9.00** FILM Something So Right (1982): A divorcée finds a "big brother" for her troubled son. With Ricky Schroder (98016949) **10.55** Enjoy! (2641794) **11.00** Sex Life (1451524) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1811017)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (9494) **5.30** Blade Warriors (545938) **6.25** All-Clued Up (258307) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (9030) **7.30** My Two Dads (7901) **8.00** Road to Avonlea (63982) **9.00** Moonlighting (83746) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (66340) **10.30** GP (84388) **11.00** Lou Grant (94036) **12.00** Rhoda (46857) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (46316) **1.00** Dangermouse (23602) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (66895) **2.00** Moonlighting (61876) **3.00** Lou Grant (30925) **4.00** Rhoda (18895) **4.30** Big Brother Jake (11857)

MTV

6.00am Wildside (86505) **6.30** The Grind (67494) **7.00** Wildside (86630) **8.00** VJ Ingo (224185) **11.00** Soul (75901) **12.00** Greatest Hits (17104) **1.00pm** Snowball (39611) **3.00** Zig and Zag (6307) **3.30** Report (3425235) **3.45** Cinematic (2970140) **4.00** News (1354494) **4.15** 3 from 1 (1344017) **4.30** Dial MTV (8630) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (80562) **7.00** Greatest Hits (89920) **8.00** Most Wanted (48274) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (18833) **10.00** Report (205630) **10.15** Cinematic (200185) **10.30** News (376833) **10.45** 3 from 1 (371388) **11.00** Party Zone (59123) **1.00am** Soul (87437) **2.00** The Grind (98873) **2.30** Videos (9378012)

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7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9871920) **9.00** Café VH-1 (8393982) **12.00** The Bridge (7544098) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9305104) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3473982) **3.30** Into The Music (2735253) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1369543) **7.00** VH-1 for You (5673920) **8.00** VH-1 Soul (5859340) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5679104) **10.00** Jonathan Ross Presents (4169727) **10.30** Old Grey Whistle Test (4178475) **11.00** Around and Around (9668456) **12.00** The Nightly (9467857) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (2477316) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

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Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, including at **6.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

[illegible]

7.00am Asian Morning (60215630) **8.30** Zindagi Ek Safar (75601098) **9.00** Zara Hat Ke (75625678) **9.30** Swar Bhushavi (81541272) **10.00** Rang Tarang (49910456) **10.30** Amar Nam Bakul (75614562) **11.00** Sauda (34115456) **11.30** Kachwa Aur Khargosh (34116185) **12.00** Farmaish (75606814) **12.30pm** India Show (81552368) **1.00** FILM (29897746) **4.00** Dasht (34139038) **5.00** Film Deewane (92102307) **5.30** Dak Ghar (78462291) **6.00** Song Tere Naam Se (78469104) **6.30** Saat Phere (78460455) **7.00** BBCD (92182543) **7.30** Zabaan Sambhal Ke (78449340) **8.00** News Bulletin (92191291) **8.30** Filmi Chakker (92187098) **9.00-12.00** FILM (79587938)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm Weekend at the Waldorf (1945): A day in the life of the guests and staff at the famous New York hotel (11551185) **10.00 The Secret Partner** (1961): Shipping tycoon Stewart Granger is blackmailed by his dentist (24915253) **12.00 Le Jardinier (The Gardener)** (1980): Surreal fable without dialogue about a frustrated gardener and his two bosses (67757383) **1.50am The Man Who Laughs** (1966). Lisa Gastoni and Edmund Purdom in the story of the infamous and decadent Borgia family in 15th-century Italy (65713296) **3.35-5.00 The Florentine Dagger** (1935): A descendant of the Borgias believes that he has inherited their murderous instincts (43817031)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1320340) **1.55** The Young Doctors (77472104) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (4346611) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (6784388) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6954630) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (538920) **10.30** Anglia News (565765) **10.40** Love Call Live (181524) **11.40** Bodies of Evidence (774543) **12.35am** The Hidden Room (4330673) **1.05** The New Music (6560963) **2.05-3.00** The James Whale Show (6687760) **3.55** Get Stuffed (59920944) **4.05** Cue the Music (9929505)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1320340) **1.55** A Country Practice (77472104) **2.20** Wish You Were Here...? (74420185) **2.50** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (7663388) **3.15-3.20** The Cookery Club (6788104) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6784388) **5.10-5.40** Eye TV (6954630) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (538920) **10.30** Central News and Weather (565765) **10.40** Central Weekend (5878140) **12.10am-1.05** Magnum (2898780) **4.25** Get Stuffed (22203555) **4.30** Jobfinder (5708166) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7054012)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1320340) **12.55** Shortland Street (2884814) **1.25** Home and Away (87401833) **1.50** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (6800123) **2.50-3.20** Wish You Were Here ..? (7956678) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6784388) **5.10-5.40** High Road (6954630) **6.25** Granada Tonight (903982) **6.50-7.00** Kick Off (858630) **10.30** Granada News (800340) **10.35** To Live and Die in LA (12523388) **12.35am** Eye TV (4330673) **1.05** The James Whale Show (6560963) **2.05** The Chart Show (6687760) **3.00** Noisy Mothers (3094012) **3.55** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8857298) **4.30-5.30** The New Music (51944)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1320340) **1.55** High Road (35661123) **2.25-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (3842369) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (6784388) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6954630) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (307) **10.30** HTV West Headlines and Weather (565765) **10.40** Late and Live (5878140) **12.10am-1.05** Father Dowling (2898789)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (1320340) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (6784388) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (307) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (565765) **10.40** Wales This Week (927562) **11.10-1.05pm** High Desert Kill (295582)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1320340) **1.55** A Country Practice (77472104) **2.20-2.50** Houseparty (74420185) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6784388) **5.10** Home and Away (6954630) **5.37** Three Minutes - Your Story (546098) **5.40** ITN Early Evening News; Weather (364475) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (31307) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (565765) **10.40** Street Legal (191901) **11.35** Phoenix (406630) **12.35am** The Hidden Room (4330673) **1.05** The New Music (6560963) **2.05-3.00** The James Whale Show (6687760) **3.55** Get Stuffed (59920944) **4.05** Cue the Music (9929505) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (80876)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8578456) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1345388) **12.25-12.30** My Story (1345659) **1.55** Murder, She Wrote (6809494) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (7862659) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News, Weather (6784388) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6954630) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (31307) **10.30** Westcountry News; Weather (565765) **10.40** Spellbinder (53952494) **12.30am-1.05** Coach (6869215)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8578456) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale, Network North (1320340) **1.55** A Country Practice (77472104) **2.20** Murder, She Wrote (3852746) **3.10** Help Yourself (6789833) **3.15-3.20** Five Minutes (6788104) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire Calendar News / Bilsdale; Network North (6784388) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6954630) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (825833) **6.30-7.00** Superchamps (307) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (565765) **10.40** Music and Movies (927562) **11.10** The Hidden Room (911920) **11.40** Sayonara (82236036) **2.15am** The James Whale Show (404470) **3.15** The Big E (3022895) **4.10** Shift (2095437) **5.00-5.30** Sportsworld (80876)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (41185) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (94388) **9.30** Ysgolion (275524) **12.00pm** The Secret Life Of .. The Fax Machine (74524) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (14630) **1.00** Sesame Street (19185) **2.00** Channel 4 Racing From Cheltenham (199630) **4.30** Saved By The Bell: The College Years (104) **5.00** 5 Pump - (6104) **5.30** Countdown (456) **6.00** Newyddion (284746) **6.15** Heno (275949) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (6340) **7.30** Penwythnos Mawr (833) **8.00** Cefn Gwlad Achub Dair (2369) **8.30** Newyddion (4123) **9.00** Ffau'r Llewod (624388) **9.45** Out Of Order (999272) **10.00** Brookside (75253) **10.30** The Jack Dee Show (705253) **11.05** The Word (706017) **12.05am** Beavis and Butthead (4202437) **12.35** Slate (108100) **2.15** Lord Edgware Dies (4654188)

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FILMS ON TELEVISION

Indian scenes and rites of passage

David Robinson makes his Pick of the Week and **John Marriott** (below and overleaf) rounds up the best of the rest. **Richard Scott** highlights the Comedy and Drama of the Week on pages 8 and 9.

Transmission times, published in good faith, may be altered. Videoplus numbers are found on pages 10 to 23.

THE RIVER
Today, Saturday, BBC 2, 12.15pm
JEAN RENOIR, the greatest French director, visited India on the way home from wartime exile in America, to make this magical classic. Adapted from Rumer Godden's novel, the story casually follows the day to day events of a little English community in the last days of the Raj. Three adolescent girls (Patrica Walters, Adrienne Corri and the young Indian actress Radha) are initiated into romantic desire by the arrival of a shy American former soldier, Captain John (Thomas E. Breen); the summer comes and goes; they discover for the first time the reality of death; life, like the river, flows on.

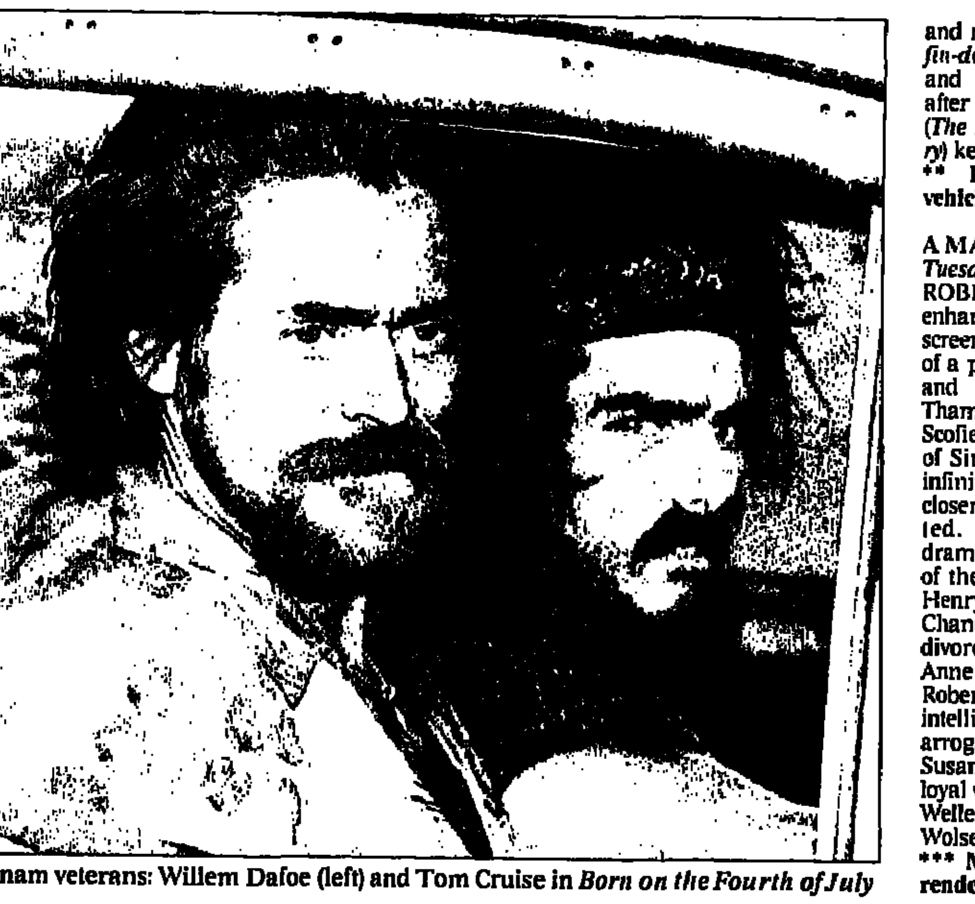
***** Jean Renoir's gentle vision of growing up in India.**

BLACK NARCISSUS
Today, Saturday, BBC 2, 2.50pm
BBC 2 provides the opportunity to compare Renoir's India with the more tormented vision of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, entirely but vividly recreated at Pinewood studios. Adapted, like *The River*, from a Rumer Godden novel, the setting is a mission school and hospital, high in the Himalayas, where five Anglican nuns battle with the climate and their own suppressed inner torments. The film's intense passion and genuine eroticism are unique in British cinema. A fine cast — led by Deborah Kerr, Flora Robson, Esmond Knight, David Farrar as the cynical and provocative British agent, Sabu as a feckless young princeling, and Jean Simmons as an Indian minx — make the most of the strongly-defined characters provided by Pressburger's script. The most unforgettable performance though is by Kathleen Byron as a sister driven to madness by repressed sexual desire.

***** One of the most singular and visually stunning British films.**

THE FUGITIVE
Today, Saturday, The Movie Channel, 10pm
WEEK after week, from 1963 to 1967 David Janssen was on the run from dogged lawman Barry Morse, striving to clear himself of unjust accusation of wife murder. The famous long-running television series has been skilfully compressed by David Twoby and Jeb Stuart in this non-stop action film. Richard Kimble, the fugitive, is now played by Harrison Ford, and his antagonist, Marshal Gerard by Tommy Lee Jones. Most of the film's wry humour goes to Jones, but Ford, sullenly intelligent, cleverly sustains the excitement by making Kimble no superhero, but just an ordinary inadequate guy, rising with real effort to each challenge. A new director, from television, Andrew Davis, proves a master with action, and the film is a wonderful box of tricks from the amazing bus and train crash that kicks it off, to a setpiece at Chicago's St Patrick's Day parade.

**** Vintage favourite renewed, as unflagging action thriller.**



Disillusioned Vietnam veterans: Willem Dafoe (left) and Tom Cruise in *Born on the Fourth of July*

BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY
Today, Saturday, BBC 2, 10.05pm
THE script of what is arguably Oliver Stone's best and most honest film was written in collaboration with its real-life hero, Ron Kovic. A working-class Catholic boy, unquestioningly loyal to the all-American ideals of success and patriotism, Ron volunteers for Vietnam, but returns a paraplegic veteran. Growing disillusion with an America that has turned its back on the war drives him to become an activist of the Veterans Against the War movement. Stone, always drawn back to Vietnam by personal memories, creates the awful reality of the battle zone, the chaos of a field hospital, and the appalling neglect of a military hospital back home in the Bronx. Tom Cruise displays unforeseen depths as Kovic in the odyssey from fresh-faced youth to disillusioned, raggy-haired cripple.

***** Tom Cruise excels as a veteran, disillusioned but matured.**

IN THE LINE OF FIRE
Tomorrow, Sunday, The Movie Channel, 8pm
THIRTY years after the event, veteran secret serviceman Frank Horrigan (Clint Eastwood) is still haunted by a guilty conviction that he could have saved President Kennedy from assassination, by putting his own body in the line of fire. Called on to avert another presidential killing, he finds that his elusive adversary (John Malkovich) is a crazed and disappointed old professional killer from the CIA. Jeff Maguire's script enriches an effective, traditional action thriller (Eastwood is an older and mellower Dirty Harry) with a *fin-de-siècle* mood of disillusion and ugly memories of the times after Kennedy. Wolfgang Petersen (*The Boat, The Never-Ending Story*) keeps a taut hold on the action.

**** Effective Eastwood action vehicle.**

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS
Tuesday, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm
ROBERT BOLT's best play is enhanced by Fred Zinnemann's screen adaptation, in its recreation of a palpable 16th-century London and the all-dominating River Thames, seen in every mood. Paul Scofield's definitive interpretation of Sir Thomas More, too, reveals infinite subtleties when seen at closer range than the stage permitted. Bolt's script skilfully dramatises the intrigues and turns of the conflict between More and Henry VIII, desperate for his Chancellor's approval of his plan to divorce his barren wife and marry Anne Boleyn (Vanessa Redgrave). Robert Shaw suggests the sensitive intelligence that goes with Henry's arrogance; Wendy Hiller and Susannah York are More's fiercely loyal wife and daughter; and Orson Welles's few minutes as Cardinal Wolsey inevitably steal the show.

***** Meticulous, superbly played rendering of Robert Bolt play.**

JEWEL ROBBERY
Thursday, Channel 4, 2.40am
THIS week's Channel 4 rediscovery is an engaging piece from 1932, by the German émigré director Wilhelm Dieterle. Adapted from a frothy stage comedy by Ladislaus Fodor, set in Vienna, it is virtually a two-hander for a team of Hollywood's most polished exponents of sophisticated comedy, William Powell and Kay Francis. Powell is a jewel robber of fiendish ingenuity and impeccable manners; Francis is a beautiful victim, bored to death with her elderly husband and his millions. The outcome is predictable, but worked out with wit and a fast, elisive style. A period of relaxed censorship permits the film some piquant situations and an exhilaratingly immoral ending.

**** Brisk, stylish, sophisticated comedy trifle.**

SATURDAY

MARCH 11

☐ **The River** (1951, BBC 2, 12.15pm, 95 mins). See Pick of the Week, above.

☐ **Black Narcissus** (1946, BBC 2, 2.50pm, 100 mins). See Pick of the Week, above.

☐ **Elmer Gantry** (1960, Sky Movies Gold, 7.40pm, 145 mins). Even though director Richard Brooks skates across the surface (and only nudges questions of faith, corruption and hypocrisy), at least he does so with spirited visual flair and coaxes a juicy central performance from Burt Lancaster. Lancaster's the salesman turned evangelist, on tour during the 1920s whose embrace of things spiritual is not as committed as his thinly-veiled lust. Lancaster is like a wonderfully bright light that just won't go out.

☐ **My Cousin Vinny** (1992, The Movie Channel, 8pm, 115 mins). The director, Jonathan Lynn, co-author of *Yes, Minister*, depends rather complacently on Joe Pesci to put flesh on this crackling legal farce. Pesci, however, savours his platform as a mouthy Brooklyn lawyer, a leather-clad scruff who, by defending his cousin on a murder rap, collides with the politics and politesse of the Deep South. The culture clash only fuels the comedy, as does Marisa Tomei as his flashy, sassy girlfriend, a role which won her an Oscar.

☐ **Impulse** (1990, ITV Network, 9pm, 120 mins). The nasty odour of low-life contributes to the authenticity of this cop thriller, as does the layered performance of Theresa Russell in what is still her best effort yet. The increasingly knotty plot sometimes causes plausibility to take a hike, an often fresh viewpoint is threatened by standard cop fare, but Russell always holds the screen as an undercover LA vice cop who is swamped by corruption, drugs and stress.

☐ **The Fugitive** (1993, The Movie Channel, 10pm and 1.50am, 125 mins). See Pick of the Week, above.

☐ **Malcolm X** (1992, Sky Movies, 10pm, 194 mins). This giant sweep across the big drama of Malcolm X's life is surprisingly strong on both directorial control and low-key interludes, given that its director is Spike Lee. The film's didacticism is never ponderous, due to Lee's light, pacy touch and a milestone title-role performance from Denzel Washington, who convinces at every stage of Malcolm's journey, from unsavoury street rogue to devoted convert to Islam.

☐ **Born on the Fourth of July** (1989, BBC 2, 10.05pm, 140 mins). See Pick of the Week, above.

☐ **Victor/Victoria** (1982, BBC 1, 11.55pm, 130 mins). Director Blake Edwards sometimes descends into clod-hopping farce, but for the most part this is an energetic, often amusing, journey through questions of sexual identity and role-playing. Julie Andrews, in her fullest role to date, successfully ranges over all the requirements of a cabaret singer who, having hit the buffers, reinvents herself as a male drag act and strikes gold. Comic confusion occurs through admirer James Garner, and the musical set-pieces are up to scratch.

Continued overleaf

FILMS ON TELEVISION

Continued from previous page

SUNDAY

MARCH 12

☐ **Born Yesterday** (1993, Sky Movies, 10am and 6pm, 120 mins). Anyone who relished the original will recall Judy Holliday's great comic instincts. Despite lacking a comic actor of her stature, and the film's attempts to be funny after it has already gone flabby, three attractive leads do decent work with their situations and lines. John Goodman is the vulgar fat cat who sends his apparently dim girlfriend, Melanie Griffith, to journalist Don Johnson to learn to speak proper and think a bit.

☐ **Straight Talk** (1992, Sky Movies, 2pm, 912 mins). The charismatic sparkle and cheery comic glow of Dolly Parton saved this from becoming a one-dimensional grind. Dolly's upped and left her life in the hills and come down to Chicago where, naturally, she is mistaken for a switched-on radio shrink. With her folksy on-air advice, she becomes a hit, and only her romance with James Woods comes on like a lumbering sideshow.

☐ **In The Line Of Fire** (1993, The Movie Channel, 8pm, 124 mins). See Pick of the Week, page 7.

☐ **Close to Eden** (1992, Sky Movies, 8pm, 120 mins). Director Sidney Lumet, normally at home with morality, community and New York, lets his sundry elements drift apart and Melanie Griffith wander about in the wrong role. As detective Emily Eden, she undergoes far too glib an inner change when she enters Brooklyn's Hasidic community to solve an inside job of theft and murder. Yet the order and detail of Hasidic life give the film a shot of reality.

☐ **When Harry Met Sally** (1989, BBC 1, 9.05pm, 90 mins). Gift-wrapped in contemporary morals and morays, this is really a loving hark back to the giddy days of sentimental, urban romantic comedy. Scoring highly with its constant rush of one-liners , it offers perky comments on male-female relationships, even if it tends to polish rather than probe its two protagonists. Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan are the twosome trying to remain just good friends.

☐ **Little Man Tate** (1991, Channel 4, 10pm, 115 mins). See panel, page 9.

☐ **Light Sleeper** (1991, BBC 2, 11pm, 105 mins). The usual show of adult intelligence from Paul Schrader, who homes in on yet another confused loner with the possibility of redemption, is not always free of the whiff of yesterday's leftovers. Willem Defoe paints a resonant, detailed portrait of a half asleep no-hoper, a drugs delivery man who, edging towards middle-age, toys with a career move. The fruitcake humour is never an ugly intrusion, unlike Schrader's familiar river of blood with which he finally decides to soak the picture.

☐ **The Producers** (1968, BBC 1, 11.10pm, 90 mins). See panel, right.

☐ **Night and the City** (1992, Sky Movies, 2am). This colourful patchwork of New York City, its thugs, moneymen, low lifers, no-hopers and maybes, is episodic by nature and, by fussing over each vignette in detail and keeping the plot slim, rarely develops enough energy to match the city depicted. Nonetheless, Robert de Niro usefully adds meat as an ambulance-chasing lawyer who opts to defend a bar-brawl victim, the accused being a boxer who belongs to the Mob. De Niro's shaky attempts to climb out of the gutter, face his own disgust and head towards a possible, if not very bright, future, allow regular sparks to fly, which even his contrived relationship with Jessica Lange can't put out.

MONDAY

MARCH 13

☐ **Lifeboat** (1944, The Movie Channel, 11.25am, 96 mins). Although Alfred Hitchcock cannot always transcend the strictures of his single cramped set, he still switches on the suspense with plenty of power and extracts a mesmerising star-turn from Tallulah Bankhead. A tale of tension among survivors of a U boat attack.

☐ **The Film Flam Man** (1967, Sky Movies, midday, 115 mins). A light, summer's evening stroll in the company of George C. Scott, gently charismatic as a veteran conman, and Michael Sarrazin, equally captivating as the honest army deserter Scott takes under his wing.

☐ **Rising Son** (1990, BBC 2, 2.15pm, 95 mins). Brian Dennehy, more familiar to us from his several beleaguered cop roles was actually designed as the gruff voice of blue-collar America, the kind of dependable, curmudgeonly, yet decent Joe for whom the working life is a real schlepp. With a fleshy face that suggests honest graft, hard won, Dennehy never lets his directors down. Here he gives a beautifully accurate performance as a factory supervisor about to face life on the dole, not to mention the resentment of his two sons. Bruce Springsteen may yet write the song.

☐ **We Dive at Dawn** (1943, BBC 2, 6pm, 90 mins). Continuing a season of films commemoratig the British experience of the Second World War, this looks as if Anthony Asquith directed with a stiff upper lip. And that is a compliment. Keeping events properly in check so that the eventual traumatic explosion occurs with full force, Asquith also receives quality service from John Mills and Eric Portman. Mills is the lieutenant in charge of a British submarine which is about to sink the German's latest battleship. Effective character delineation throughout.

☐ **The Power of One** (1992, Sky Movies, 8pm, 122 mins). Sometimes coming unstuck with sentiment and contrivance this lumpy affair does try to query apartheid through the story of a young English boy who, in a school full of Afrikaners, feels as excluded as the blacks. With Morgan Freeman and Armin Mueller-Stahl lending welcome weight, and some memorable scenes played out by Stephen Dorff in the lead, he went on to make *Backbeat* where he shone even more brightly, the metaphor of boxing is an awkward intrusion. Mind you, the director was John *Rocky* Avildsen.

☐ **Crush** (1992, Channel 4, 11.30pm, 115 mins). A tidal wave of original work from Australia and New Zealand has washed on to our shores these last few years and shows no signs of drying up. Alistair Maclean's last film, *Crush* lacks an overall coherence as it reaches right up to embrace obsession, deceit, betrayal, bourgeois values and is at times buckled by the weight of its own ambition. Yet Marcia Gay Harden and Donogh Rees provide solid gold in the main roles, the latter playing a literary critic who is duped by her supposed best friend (Harden). The otherworldliness of New Zealand is also a key dramatic strength.

☐ **In Caliente** (1935, Channel 4, 1.25am, 95 mins). With absolutely no chance of this derivitive romatic comedy developing a mind of its own, this yarn about a magazine editor (Pat O'Brien) and a dancer (Dolores Del Rio) at least benefits from the comic touch of Edward Everett Horton and a few Busby Berkeley production numbers.

TUESDAY

MARCH 14

☐ **Sabata** (1969, Sky Movies Gold, 6pm, 107 mins). The usual overheated spaghetti Western clichés are no less stylish for all that, and director Frank Kramer (Aka Giafranco Parolini) comes up with a handful of distinctive framings. Three corrupt businessmen hire Lee Van Cleef (brooding, solitary, mean as hell) to commit theft.

☐ **A Man For All Seasons** (1966, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 120 mins). See Pick of the Week, page 7.

☐ **Closing Numbers** (1993, Channel 4, 10pm, 115 mins). Writer David Cook takes a searching look at the affect of Aids on Little England. Jane Asher plays Anna, a contented middle class housewife, a woman motivated by good works, who discovers that her husband is gay and that he's been having an affair. His lover, whom she meets, urges Anna to have an Aids test. Asher makes the role entirely her own and convincingly ranges over insecurity, tears, determination and anger. Cook also successfully incorporates the sense of bourgeois England being shaken to its core.

☐ **Thunder Heart** (1992, The Movie Channel, 10.15pm, 114 mins). Part-Sioux FBI agent Val Kilmer, sent to South Dakota to pick away at a murder, goes 15 rounds with both his own origins and split loyalities. Through realising it may well be his own people who are the ones to fear, his discovery of his roots turns his views a murky shade of grey. Culture comparisons are never sledgehammered into the script, and Kilmer, for the most part effectively subdued, puts his customary intensity on hold.

☐ ***Roe vs Wade*** (1989, BBC 1, 11.15pm, 95 mins). Wearing its socially astute credentials on its sleeve at all times, this television movie offers a pretty constant emotional blast as it takes abortion into the courts. Holly Hunter is her usual chameleon-like self as she almost becomes the scream of unmarried poverty, a woman who fights for the right to have an abortion (an act illegal in her home state of Texas). Amy Madigan, the far-thinking young attorney who takes up her case, easily matches Hunter point for dramatic point. Another tale from American life which went on to win an Emmy.

☐ **His Lordship** (1936, Channel 4, 2am, 75 mins). George Arliss, as ever at home with energetic whimsey and sharp dialogue, is the reason for this dual role comedy in which Arliss plays a pompous politician and the twin brother who replaces him. War is averted and two sheikhs are seen off.

☐ **A Private Matter** (1993, Sky Movies, 3.30am, 91 mins). Sweeping drama sits comfortably alongside private, personal concerns, in this searing warning against the dangers of thalidomide. Based closely on real life, this stars Sissy Spacek, who brings her usual quiet power to the role of Sherri Finkbine; having taken thalidomide, she realises her fifth child may be born without limbs, opts for abortion and so clashes mightily with the right-to-lifers. Of the fully rounded characters the best is Spacek herself, who could fix your gaze even during moments of silence.

COMEDY OF THE WEEK

Mel's Oscar-winner

Mel Brooks, who began his career as a drummer and then a stand-up comedian in the Jewish "borscht belt" resort hotels in the Catskills, has only once won an Academy Award. It was in 1968, for the screenplay of his first film, which he also directed, but did not appear in (although his distinctive voice can be heard at one point on the soundtrack.) For many people **The Producers** (tomorrow, Sunday, BBC 1, 11.10pm) is still their favourite Brooks film, largely because it sets up an inspired comic idea and then follows it through to its end.

Max Bialystock (Zero Mostel) is a washed-up Broadway entrepreneur dreaming of his comeback, and Leo Bloom (Gene Wilder) an accountant who has come to sort out his books. They are so hopeless that Leo suggests his only way out is to have a mega-hit. But why not a mega-flop? Max sees a way out: to oversell interests in a show that cannot succeed, and make off with the surplus investment. By sheer force of his excessive personality Max sweeps Leo along with him, and they set out to find the worst possible script for a new musical.

It comes in the form of a piece called *Springtime For Hitler*, written by Franz Liebkind (Kenneth Mars) who wears a German helmet everywhere, even with a dinner jacket. Max then turns on his charm to a succession of elderly, very wealthy widows, including the veteran British actress Estelle Winwood, then 85, and manages to sell off 25,000 per cent of the show.

Zero Mostel (left), Gene Wilder and Christopher Hewett

Next, they hire the worst stage director, Roger de Bris (Christopher Hewett) who is a transvestite, and for leading man, a drug-addled hippie, Lorenzo St Du Bois (Dick Shawn.) On opening night, as the title song turns into a huge production number with a chorus of SS girls in fishnet tights making a swastika pattern when viewed Busby Berkeley style for above, the two perpetrators of the atrocity stand at the back of the theatre, revelling in the stupefied expressions of the audience, who are engulfed in the most tasteless spectacle they have ever seen.

The euphoria is short-lived. Hitler starts getting the laughs, and the show, far from being a flop, is so rapturously received at the end that it looks set to run for years, the last thing its producers want. So they have to find drastic measures to extricate themselves.

Mel Brooks started his cinema career as he meant to go on. His penchant for bad taste, low humour and vulgarity is present in many of his films, which often indulge in sniggering schoolboy jokes, such as the farting scene in *Blazing Saddles*, or the meeting between Frankenstein's monster and his bride in *Young Frankenstein*. He even returned to sending up the Nazis in the 1983 remake of *To Be Or Not To Be*, which he starred in and produced. Yet I have never come across anyone, Jew or gentile, who was actually offended by *Springtime For Hitler*. Somehow, the Brooksian humour, at its best, is so outrageous and downright funny that it transcends questions of taste, allowing him to get away with almost anything.

RICHARD SCOTT

THURSDAY MARCH 16

CHOICE: dishing non-existent dirt on Jackie O

Searching in vain for her skeletons

She married two rich and famous men, lived unhappily with both, was twice widowed and spent the rest of her years in virtual seclusion until cancer killed her at the age of 64. Such is the story of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. **Secret Lives: Jackie** (Channel 4, 9pm) spares us nothing in raking over her private life and where facts are short, speculation takes over. She still comes out well. She nobly endured Jack Kennedy's infidelities so that his presidential ambitions would not be tainted by scandal. Her dignified bearing after his assassination was rightly admired. The worst the film can say about her is that she was appallingly extravagant, a source of anguish to both husbands. But she was also, says the journalist Jack Anderson, a princess.

To judge by his ample girth, Charles Campion is a food writer who enjoys his subject. He launches a new series of **Food File** (Channel 4, 8.30pm; see the feature, page 6) with an SOS: Save Our Shops. He means the traditional high street food stores, which are being slaughtered by out-of-town supermarkets. Campion visits the West Midlands, where Dudley's run-down and vandalised shops are sad testimony to the impact of the enormous Merryhill Centre. A planning officer admits that the "disbenefits" of Merryhill were greater than envisaged. Other items are a guide to olive oil, UK sales of which have increased sixfold in ten years, and an Australian recipe for red snapper.

Alien Nations (Channel 4, 8pm), Andy Kershaw's instructive series on European identity, takes him to Latvia and a population almost evenly divided between Latvians and Russians. Relations between the two are frosty and complicated by history. For half a century up to 1991 the country was part of Russia and Latvian culture was suppressed. Now it is the other way round. Latvians are asserting their identity and the Russians, many of whom were born and grew up in the country, have become the second-class citizens.

FBI agents Mulder (David Duchovny) and Scully (Gillian Anderson) sign off **The X Files** (BBC 2, 9.30pm), a series of investigations into the paranormal, with a typically scary tale about the cloning of extra-terrestrial viruses. The trail leads to a scientist who is doing strange things with monkeys and live human bodies suspended in tanks of liquid. Not for the first time in the series the United States government is shown to be involved in secret work with disturbing implications and trying to cover up the evidence. The show may be science fiction but you feel that the line between fantasy and fact is not all that wide.

PETER WAYMARK

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: *Secret Lives* finds no scandal

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (65622)

***7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (95133974)*

9.05 Kilroy (s) (5284245)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7506326) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8686429) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick** (s) (7921993)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1364784) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (s) (7130697) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15836603)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (37790)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (77580177) **1.50 Going for Gold** (s) (77584993)

2.15 FILM: House of Secrets (1956) starring Michael Craig and Julia Arnall. Thriller about a British seaman who unwittingly becomes involved with a French counterfeiting gang planning to flood Britain with forged banknotes. Directed by Guy Green (404806)

3.50 Jackanory. Part three of Henrietta Branford's story *Dimanche Diller* (s) (8780871) **4.00 Robinson Sucroe**. (Ceefax) (9924968) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (4161852) **4.35 Mud**. Comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (1572887)

5.00 Newsround (6779055) **5.10 Blue Peter**. Includes a preview of National Science Week. (Ceefax) (s) (8816351)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (443626) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

***6.00 Six O'Clock News** (Ceefax) and weather* (871)

6.30 Regional news magazines (351) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (4516)

7.30 EastEnders (Ceefax) (s) (535)

8.00 Animal Hospital Week with Rolf Harris and *Steve Knight. (Ceefax) (s) (3264)*

8.30 Crown Prosecutor. Legal drama starring Michael Praed and Paris Jefferson. There are some unwilling witnesses in a case against a porn fraudster. (Ceefax) (s) (9871)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8451)

9.30 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Sue Cook appeal for help from viewers in solving another catalogue of crimes. (Ceefax) (s) (863887)

10.15 Question Time. David Dimbleby's guests include Transport Secretary Brian Mawhinney and comic Jo Brand. (Ceefax) (654500) **Northern Ireland:** Spotlight 10.45 Question Time 11.45 Crimewatch UK Update 12.00-*12.45am* Cagney and Lacey; **Wales:** 10.15 The Slate (774158) 10.45 Question Time (653871) 11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (496974) 11.55 Cagney and Lacey (383326) 12.45-2.10am FILM: The Knack and How to Get It (2136630)

11.15 Crimewatch UK Update (Ceefax) (s) (892974)

11.25 Cagney and Lacey. *Vintage detective* series(r). (Ceefax) (750429)

12.15am FILM: The Knack and How to Get It (1965). Offbeat comedy starring Michael Crawford, Ray Brooks and Rita Tushingham. A naive schoolteacher and a handsome bachelor persuade a young Northern lass to rent their spare room. Directed by Richard Lester (1733765) **1.40 Weather** (6515123)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Biology **6.45** Geology **7.10** *A Tropical Rainforest* **7.35** *Magnetic Earth* (70643887)

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6563887) **8.15 Westminster On-Line With Andrew Neil** (s) (4971210)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Square One TV (5349332) **9.20** Mathsphere (5263968) **9.40** You and Me (9038158) **9.45** Come Outside (5337413) ***10.00** Playdays (8697535)* ***10.25** Ghostwriter* (8690822) **10.55** Watch: Homes Across Europe (4673784) **11.10** Healthe 2 (6761993) **11.30** Landmarks: Pakistan and its People (9094328) **11.50** Mad About Music (4999603) **12.10** Short Circuit (5876142) **12.30** Working Lunch (96806) **1.00** Lifeschool (57729413) **1.25** History File (87423055) **1.45** Storytime *(25169603)* ***2.00** Sloppit and Tidyup* (65718603) **2.05** Puppydog Tales (65717974)

2.10 Next With Marti Caine. Retirement magazine (s) (74542351). **Northern Ireland:** The Tall Ships 2.20 Northern Ireland Question Time

2.35 From The Edge. The image of disabled people on television and films. (Ceefax) (7888697)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (4179719)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (8788413)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (264)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (448)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. What men think of their bodies. (Ceefax) (s) (3947974)

5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave. Fast three-course meals (r) (449595)

6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (808142)

6.45 They Who Dare. (Ceefax) (s) (401697)

7.00 Waiting For God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2158)

7.30 First Sight: A Handful of Dust. An investigation into the extent of asbestos in schools, homes and public buildings. **Northern Ireland:** Sceal Dha Chistin 7.35 29 Bedford Street; **Wales:** First Sight: From Cradle to the Rave; **East:** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **North, North-east, North-west:** Close Up North; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West (177)

8.00 Life With Fred (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1806). **Northern Ireland:** Misteach Baile Atha Cliath

8.30 Top Gear. Includes a test of Honda's new Civic. (Ceefax) (s) (7413)

9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives. Musical ecological tales. (Ceefax) (4351)

9.30 **The X Files: The Erlenmeyer Flask**. (Ceefax) (s) (861429)

10.15 Strange Stories. (Ceefax) (126500)

10.30 Newsnight with Kirsty Wark. (Ceefax) (770582) **11.15 Late Review** (s) (641626)

11.55 Weather (471790)

12.00 Open View. A preview of next week's Open University programmes (5041920)

12.05am The Chemistry of Almost Everything (4289104)

12.30 The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (3761746). Ends at **12.55**

4.30-5.15 BBC Select: Developing Family Literacy (99630) **5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture** (7641746)

***5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update** (38494)*

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7562581)

9.25 Chain Letters** (s) (3907413) **9.55 London** **Today (Teletext) and weather (8501784)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place. Topical discussion programme hosted by John Stapleton (s) (7709264)

10.35 This Morning presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26366535) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1360968)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2905351)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2817142) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57804158)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz asks if blondes have more fun (35767351) **2.25 A Country *Practice*** *(s) (74534332)*

2.50 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft looks at early spring flowers; Nigel Snow talks about camellias; and Carol Adams investigates some hanging columneas (7052806) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6881245) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6880516)

***3.30 The Riddlers** (r) (2955535) **3.40 Wizadora** (r)* (s) (8786055) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (3740041) **4.15 Animaniacs**. New series. (Teletext) (s) (6122142) **4.40 Fun House** with Pat Sharp. (Teletext) (s) (9836429)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (6067158)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (254500)

5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (168210)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (239)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (210887)

6.50 Emmerdale (Teletext) (235061)

7.20 The European Match — Live. Bob Wilson introduces coverage of the match between Auxerre and Arsenal, as the Gunners continue their bid to be the first club to retain the European Cup Winners Cup. NB in the event of extra-time followed by penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to delay or change (40381852)

9.30 Oddballs. Out-takes from the world of sport (r) (33388)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (79697)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (818887)

10.40 Revelations starring Paul Shelley and Judy Loe. Edward and Jessica struggle to keep *hold of reality (s) (545968)*

11.10 Big City. Paul Ross and Carolyn Marshall take a look at what's on in and around London this week (s) (191142)

11.40 The Powers That Be. The life and times of an American senator and his family on Capitol Hill (711790)

12.15am The Little Picture Show (r) (187498)

1.15 The Beat (r) (s) (138302)

2.15 The Album Show (r) (s)(6816272)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (68901456)

3.35 Sport AM (r) (8995524)

4.30 Videofashion (r) (93456)

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (73104)

***5.30 ITN Morning News** (25920). Ends at 6.00*

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Spiff and Hercules (2900622)

***7.00 The Big Breakfast**. Kris Kristofferson joins* Paula Yates on the bed and Movie Snap goes behind the scenes on new film releases, including *Little Women* and *IQ* (54413)

9.00 The Morning Line: The Cheltenham Festival. It's Gold Cup day, and the experts set the scene. (s) (52974)

9.30 Schools. Middle English (5334328) **9.45** The New Living Body (5391535) **10.05** Scientific Eye (8681974) **10.27** Geographical Eye over Africa (6846210) **10.50** Your World (6018871) **11.00** History in Action (6767177) **11.20** Earth — The Home Planet (6208239) **11.40** The German Programme (s) (4995887)

12.00 House to House. Maya Even discusses *politics behind the scenes* (69210)

12.30pm Sesame Street. Susan St James and Robin Williams share with I, F and five. (45871)

1.30 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **2.15**, **2.50**, **3.30** (**Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup**) and **4.05** races (s) (861061)

4.30 Countdown. Maths and wordplay. The question-master is Richard Whiteley Richard Whitely. (Teletext) (s) (516)

5.00 Ricki Lake: Man-Eating Mother-in-Laws. Ricki referees a discussion on relations by marriage. (Teletext) (s) (8995061)

5.50 Terrytoons. Animated classics. (254061)

***6.00 The Cosby Show: The Getaway**. Cliff and* Clair are ecstatic as Sondra, Elvin and the twins plan to move into their own home. (Teletext) (581)

6.30 Saved By The Bell: The College Years. Slater, Alex, Zack and Leslie are taking a tough lesson in ethics — should they rummage through the teacher's desk for forthcoming test questions? (Teletext) (531) (s)

7.00 Channel 4 News. Followed by Weather. (Teletext) (218992)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' opinions. (153448)

8.00 **Alien Nations: Riga**. (Teletext) (s) (6974)

8.30 **Food File** *(Teletext) (s) (2581)*

9.00 **Secret Lives: Jackie** (Teletext) (s) (2056)

10.00 FILM: Babysnatcher (1992). Thriller based on a true story, starring Veronica Hamel as a woman who longs for a child and, after struggling to come to terms with a miscarriage, abducts a baby belonging to widow Nancy McKeon. Directed by Joyce Chopra. (Teletext) (470142)

11.45 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. A review of the day's action including a rerun of the Gold Cup. (s) (370852)

12.35am Dispatches (r). (Teletext) (1878307)

1.25 American Patchwork: Dreams and Songs *of the Noble Old*. *Songs and stories* presented by Alan Lomax. Tonight's focus is on ballads, blues, spirituals and revivalist jazz. (r) (8177852)

2.40 FILM: Jewel Robbery (1932, b/w). Comedy starring William Powell as a sophisticated gentleman thief who romances baroness Kay Frances after stealing from her. Directed by *William Dieterle. Ends at 3.55. (2483843)*

هكذا من الاصل

THURSDAY MARCH 16

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (84429) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (29149) **8.30** Blockbusters (98790) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (40871) **10.00** Concentration (50177) **10.30** Card Sharks (12328) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (77332) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (79526) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (45142) **1.00** St Elsewhere (40697) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (61806) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (6196535) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4004603) **3.55** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (8661993) **4.30** Mighty Morphin (6822) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (9603) **6.00** Murphy Brown (4887) **6.30** Family Ties (2239) **7.00** Rescue (8072) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7351) **8.00** Manhunter (87142) **9.00** Under Suspicion (70806) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (73993) **11.00** David Letterman (318332) **11.50** Littlejohn (920871) **12.40am** Chances (3299524) **1.30** WKRP in Cincinnati (73765) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (1265320)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (1344239) **9.30** Sky News Extra (89332) **10.30** ABC Nightline (10968) **11.00** World News and Business (432448) **1.30pm** CBS News This Morning (79413) **2.30** Parliament Live (93429) **4.00** World News and Business (32158) **5.00** Live at Five (8353429) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (10233210) **8.00** News and Business (12500) **9.30** The O.J. Simpson Trial Live (150332) **12.30am** CBS News (98582) **1.30** Sky News Extra (37272) **2.30** Parliament Replay (38543) **4.30** CBS News (82456) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (50630)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1294239) **10.00 And Then There Was One** (1994): True story of a young couple and their baby daughter, all of whom are told they have the HIV virus (29158) **12.00 The Great Bank Robbery** (1969): Spoof western with Zero Mostel and Kim Novak (52681) **2.00pm Butch and Sundance: The Early Days** (1979): William Katt and Tom Berenger in the roles made famous by Robert Redford and Paul Newman (64245) **4.00 Mister Ten Percent** (1966): Producer John Le Mesurier attempts to swindle innocent playwright Charlie Drake (84833806) **5.55 And Then There Was One** (1994): As 10am (27351790) **7.30 E! News Week in Review** (8719) **8.00 Honeymoon in Vegas** (1992): Nicolas Cage loses girlfriend Sarah Jessica Parker to gambler James Caan (83326) **10.00 Bram Stoker's Dracula** (1992): Gary Oldman as the vampire Count in Francis Ford Coppola's stylish adaptation. With Winona Ryder (24068503) **12.10am Bob Roberts** (1992): Political satire with Tim Robbins (393123) **1.55 Overkill: The Aileen Wuornos Story** (1992): True story about the police investigation into America's first woman serial killer. With Jean Smart (858301) **3.30-5.20 Men of Respect** (1991): John Turturro plays a New York hood whose ambitious wife urges him to kill (160253)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Killing (1956): Stanley Kubrick's classic about an elaborate racetrack robbery. With Sterling Hayden (57993) **8.00 This Property Is Condemned** (1966): Natalie Wood and Robert Redford in an adaptation of Tennessee Williams's one-act play (56210) **10.00-12.00 Midnight Cowboy** (1969): Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight star in John Schlesinger's drama (32142)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Hong Kong (1951): A crook attempts to steal a valuable antique from an orphaned Chinese girl (16069) **8.00 To Catch a Yeti** (1993): Meatloaf tracks the abominable snowman (25030245) **9.35 Little Miss Broadway** (1938): Shirley Temple arrives at a hotel for vaudeville acts (8871516) **10.50 Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm** (1938): Shirley Temple plays a cute kid with star quality (4445413) **12.10pm Just for You** (1952): Musical with Bing Crosby (536239) **2.00 High Flight** (1958): RAF drama with Ray Milland (62887) **4.00 To Catch a Yeti** (1993): As 8am (2177) **6.00 The Babe** (1992): John Goodman in a biography of baseball star George Herman "Babe" Ruth (75351) **8.00 The Thing Called Love** (1993): Four would-be singer/songwriters struggle to achieve fame in the country music capital of Nashville. With River Phoenix (81968) **10.00 Round Trip to Heaven** (1991): Two boys drive a mobster's Rolls Royce to California to meet their favourite centrefold (184448) **11.40 Uninhibited** (1991): Erotic entertainment (661852) **1.20am Payoff** (1991): Keith Carradine avenges the murder of his parents (532291) **3.10-4.40 Dr Heckyl and Mr Hype** (1980): Horror comedy starring Oliver Reed (89003901)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4853055) **7.15** WWF Challenge (214351) **8.15** Soccer News (2676784) **8.30** National Trails (23061) **9.00** Extreme Skiing (41413) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (76697) **10.00** The Rugby Club (39142) **11.00** Get Your Handicap Down (70332) **11.30** Fish Tales (4984239) **11.45** Classics (4076822) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (34177) **12.30pm** NBA Basketball (41061) **2.30** Snooker: Kloster Open (39177) **4.30** ATP Tennis Magazine (6210) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (2719) **6.00** Soccer News (973239) **6.15** Fish Tales (713662) **6.30** World of Rugby Union (8055) **7.00** Schoolboy Football: Victory Shield, Live — Scotland v Wales (14687) **9.00** Snooker: Kloster Open (47595) **11.00** Soccer News (516697) **11.15** Bootroom (714661) **12.15am** Transworld Sport (246494) **1.15-3.15** Schoolboy Football (135369)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurotennis (84264) **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing (87429) **10.00** Nordic Skiing (36332) **11.00** Live Alpine Skiing (81887) **1.00pm** Tennis (11790) **1.30** Motors Magazine (99245) **2.30** Eurofun (1142) **3.00** Freestyle Skiing (77245) **4.00** Snowboarding (8822) **4.30** Live Nordic Skiing (40500) **5.30** Alpine Skiing (19158) **6.30** Eurosport News (9351) **7.00** Combat Sports (12806) **8.00** Wrestling (25326) **9.00** Football (86993) **10.30** Football (99210) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (82263)

SKY SOAP

6.00am Loving (4189581) **6.30** Peyton Place (4188852) **9.00** As the World Turns (4394210) **10.00** Guiding Light (9898597) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9774061)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4199968) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1488622) **1.00** Cruising the Globe (9785177) **1.30** Cook Italian (1487993) **2.00** California's Gold (7041516) **2.30** Florida (4814622) **3.00** Australia's Inland Sea (4795887) **4.00** Sky Travel Guide (4805974) **4.30** Zoo Life (4801158) **5.00** Ski Perfect (7969968) **5.30** Cook Italian (4712210) **6.00** Australia (4815351) **6.30** Bavaria (4806603) **7.00** American Vacation (5777790) **8.00** Around the World (7958852) **8.30** Sky Travel Guide (7040887) **9.00** Australia (4703806) **9.30** Bavaria (1475156) **10.00** American Vacation (5776061) **11.00** Ski Perfect (4708351) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4330158)

TLC

9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (2979784) **9.30** A Taste of Japan (6180500) **10.00** Jimmy's (2081168) **10.30** Only Human (1342061) **11.30** Inside Crime (2216023) **12.00** *Private Lives* (2082448) **12.30pm** Park High (5264516) **1.00** A Taste of Japan (6642622) **1.30** Successful Sugarcraft (5263887) **2.00** You and Your Dog (2082887) **3.00** Secret Gardens (2050784) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (1022600)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8549581) **7.30** Neighbours (8631516) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2061719) **8.30** EastEnders (2053790) **9.00** The Bill (2971142) **9.30** Colditz (5990326) **10.30** Angels (1351719) **11.30** Terry and June (5997111) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2064806) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5266974) **1.00** EastEnders (8548852) **1.30** The Bill (5266245) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (2146535) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (1029413) **3.00** Knots Landing (7367577) **4.00** Dallas (8812862) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9834806) **5.35** The Dick Emery Show (6283526) **6.50** Hi-De-Hi (4920535) **6.30** EastEnders (1117622) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (9740852) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (2053871) **8.30** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (2145806) **9.00** Minder (9842284) **10.00** The Bill (2065535) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7756790) **11.10** Carroll Confidential (2235535) **12.00** Dr Who (3468291) **12.30am** FILM: The Importance of Being Earnest (1952): Oscar Wilde's comedy stars Michael Redgrave, Michael Denison and Dorothy Tutin (1289104) **2.00** Shopping at Night (5593611)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6033055) **6.55** Garfield (7673429) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6654790) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (4338582) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4513516) **8.45** Casper (1729719) **9.00** Sesame Street (19993) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (98887) **12.00** Garfield (63503) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (18239) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (59535) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83600245) **1.45** Baby Follies (83625500) **2.00** Barney (6500) **2.30** Babar (7142) **3.00** Casper (1642284) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (134516) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (133887) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1448887) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (2846)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4651697) **7.15** Rude Dog (246061) **7.45** Rugrats (244332) **8.15** Nicktoons (339974) **8.45** Nickalive! (8459284) **9.00** Nick Jr (945142) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (32719) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (76055) **1.00** Smoggies (24284) **1.30** Galaxy High School (77326) **2.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (1734) **2.30** Henry's Cat (7516) **3.00** Grimmy (8561) **3.30** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (2061) **4.00** Rude Dog (5968) **4.30** Rugrats (4852) **5.00** Clarissa (8326) **5.30** Nickalive! (1332) **6.00** Doug (8245) **6.30-7.00** Secret of the Stones (8697)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Dolphins (3392624) **5.00** Around Whicker's World (91283887) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4445500) **7.00** From Monkeys to Apes (2146993) **7.30** An African Ride (1111448) **8.00** History's Mysteries (2051413) **8.30** World of Adventures (2143448) **9.00** Special Forces (4212606) **9.30** Those Who Dare (5171652) **10.00** Search for Adventure (9843993) **11.00** Paramedics (9262103) **11.30-12.00** The Global Family (2907142)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: I Live in Grosvenor Square (1945): A duke's daughter falls in love with an American airman. Stars Anna Neagle (2098448) **2.00pm** thirtysomething (2906413) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2047210) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1026326) **4.00** FILM: SOS Titanic (1979): Drama about the events leading up to the sinking of the Titanic (2058326) **6.00** Get Smart (1015210) **6.30** FILM: Cone of Silence (1960): A flying instructor tries to prove that a design flaw in an aircraft caused the death of his fiancee's father (6024993) **8.00** thirtysomething (9751968) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (4117054) **9.30** FILM: Puberty Blues (1981): Two high-school girls worry about their love lives (5828606) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (2901968)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6020516) **7.00** Living Magazine (8538974) **8.00** The Treatment (3580595) **8.30** Rendezvous (4930036) **9.00** Go for It (5289528) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7232142) **10.05** Now You See It (1283018) **10.30** Susan Powter (3384392) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7049429) **12.00** Entertaining on a Plate (6402719) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48116697) **1.05** Kilroy (8169142) **2.00** Agony Hour (1912790) **3.00** Living Magazine (7545852) **3.45** Gladrags (65045697) **4.00** Infatuation (9162871) **4.30** Crosswits (9169055) **5.00** Masterchef (3391968) **5.35** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7071448) **6.05** Susan Powter (8304622) **6.30** Brookside (9163500) **7.00** Living Magazine (9785974) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9794622) **9.00** FILM: The Gift of Life (1982): A mother of two decides to become a surrogate. With Susan Dey (98112177) **10.55** Sneak Scenes (8346582) **11.00** Brookside (7484852) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1917245)

THE FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (7852) **5.30** Mighty Jungle (1158) **6.00** The Black Stallion (280142) **6.25** All Clued Up (867055) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit — The Sequel (20869) **7.30** My Two Dads (15351) **8.00** [illegible] (55868) **9.00** Moonlighting (41332) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (64332) **10.30** GP (77652) **11.00** Lou Grant (63784) **12.00** Rhoda (24253) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (12920) **1.00** Dangermouse (80758) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit — The Sequel (37901) **2.00** Moonlighting (75562) **3.00** Lou Grant (30307) **4.00** Rhoda (98659) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (15291)

MTV

5.00am Wideside (62543) **6.30** The Grind (38500) **7.00** Wideside (68606) **8.00** VJ Ingo (939061) **11.00** Soul (57177) **12.00** Greatest Hits (93332) **1.00pm** Snowball (13246) **3.00** Sports (7103) **3.30** Report (9120023) **3.45** Cinematic (4170528) **4.00** News (1450622) **4.15** 3 From 1 (1440246) **4.30** Dial MTV (2264) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (72055) **6.30** The Pulse (1581) **7.00** Greatest Hits (54806) **8.00** Most Wanted (87852) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (94061) **10.00** Report (830326) **10.15** Cinematic (828581) **10.30** News (838603) **10.45** 3 from 1 (533168) **11.00** The End? (11581) **1.00am** Soul (50901) **2.00** The Grind (81416) **2.30** Videos

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9784448) **9.00** Café VH-1 (8926210) **12.00** The Bridge (1476887) **1.00pm** VH-1 to 1 (9787535) **1.30** Ten of the Best (9401332) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3406210) **3.30** Into the Music (8430041) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1392871) **7.00** VH-1 for You (5786448) **8.00** VH-1 Rock (5699968) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5775332) **10.00** The Bridge (4307784) **11.30** The Nightfly (9776974) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (8172104) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 8am to 7pm, including at 6.00 Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (60328158) **8.30** Fata Fut (75634326) **9.00** Movie (84905603) **12.00** Tara (75636142) **12.30pm** Chakravyuha (81658516) **1.00** FILM (29993974) **4.00** Top Ten (34235264) **5.00** Tear Kaman (92208535) **5.30** Dak Ghar (78675719) **6.00** Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan (78685332) **6.30** Janam Daale (78483784) **7.00** Var Var Parivar (92115871) **7.30** Dillagi (78489368) **8.00** News (92204719) **8.30** Andaz (92110326) **9.00** India Business Review (34231448) **9.30** Pakistan Business Update (81665852) **10.00** Zee Horror Show (75539871) **10.30** Sa Re Ga Ma (75726719) **11.00** Haveli (34236993) **11.30-12.00** Wah Janaab (10165061)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Spotlight on Gene Kelly
7.00pm Invitation to the Dance (1957): Three stories told entirely in dance and mime (16558993) **9.00 The Happy Road** (1957): A boy runs away from a Swiss boarding school to look for his father in Paris (76082168) **11.00 Crest of the Wave** (1954): Gene Kelly joins a team of naval research scientists on a small Scottish island (91018993) **12.40am Living in a Big Way** (1947): Comedy-drama about a Second World War veteran who returns home (57735291) **2.35-5.00 The Devil Makes Three** (1952): An American intelligence officer falls for a girl in post-Second World War Germany. With Pier Angeli (47658524)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

Baby brings on the blues

DAYTIME television has come in for severe criticism recently, being called a wasteland and an insult to viewers' intelligence. But if you happen to tune in to The Learning Channel, you could pick up some useful information.

For example, take **Postpartum — Beyond The Blues** (10.30am), presented by *Thelma and Louise* actress Susan Sarandon (right). The subject is postpartum psychosis ("baby blues"). Symptoms shown by new mothers include loss of appetite, sleeplessness, extreme mood swings, feelings of hopelessness and bouts of obsessive thinking, and even thoughts of suicide and infanticide.

The programme focuses on one sufferer, Nancy Berchtold, and shows how she was able to overcome her paranoia after a year. She now leads a support group for fellow sufferers.

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1360968) **1.55** The Young Doctors (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6067158) **6.25-6.50** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (535968) **10.30** Anglia News (818887) **10.40** Cover Story (545968) **11.10** Side Effects (698500) **12.05am** Married with Children (4276830) **12.30** Midnight Crossing (431982) **2.20** The Beat (5753340) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68900727) **3.40** Quiz Night (17344307) **4.05** Donahue (8778098) **4.50-5.00** Night Shift (34372814)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1360968) **1.55** A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6067158) **6.24** Alternative Schedule (159097) **6.25** Central News and Weather (617516) **6.45-6.50** Life Line (643264) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (818887) **11.10** Side Effects (318852) **12.10am-12.15** Curtis Calls (4383765) **4.30** Jobfinder (5729404) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7087340)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1360968) **12.55** Shortland Street (2817142) **1.25** Home and Away (87507061) **1.50** Vanessa (35682852) **2.20** The Main Ingredient (74453413) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7052800) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6880516) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6067158) **6.25** Granada Tonight (535968) **6.50-7.20** Emmerdale (235061) **10.30** Granada News (818887) **10.40** Revelations (545968) **11.40** The Powers That Be (711790) **12.15am** The Little Picture Show (187498) **1.15** The Beat (138302) **2.15** The Album Show (6816272) **3.10** America's Top Ten (68901456) **3.35** Sport AM (8995524) **4.30** Jobfinder (93456) **5.00-5.30** Vanessa (73104)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1360968) **2.25** Gardening Time (74452784) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7958887) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6067158) **6.30-6.50** HTV News (210887) **10.30** HTV West Headlines and Weather (818887) **10.40** Crimestoppers Special (545968) **11.10** The West This Week (191142) **11.40-12.15pm** Good Health! (711790) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (93456)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 6.30-6.50 Wales Tonight (210887) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (818887) **10.40** Welsh & Wealthy (545968) **11.10** Grass Roots (191142) **11.40-12.15pm** The Twilight Zone (711790)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1360968) **1.55** A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6880516) **5.10** Home and Away (6067158) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Crimestoppers (251974) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (525581) **6.20-6.50** Grass Roots (448968) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (818887) **10.40** False Witness (53058622) **12.30am** Midnight Crossing (431982) **2.20** The Beat (5753340) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68900727) **3.40** Quiz Night (17344307) **4.05** Donahue (8778098) **4.50** *Night Shift* (34372814) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (73104)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8501784) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1442516) **12.25-12.30** My Story (1441887) **2.25** Wish You Were Here...? (74452784) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6067158) **6.00-6.50** Westcountry Live (999448) **10.30** Westcountry News; Weather (818887) **10.40** Married with Children (545968) **11.10-12.15pm** Prisoner Cell Block H (696210) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (93456)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Biledale: Network North (1360968) **1.55** A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Biledale: Network North (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6067158) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (995210) **6.20-6.50** Crosswits (448968) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (818887) **10.40** Edit V (275992) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (693055) **12.20am** Johnnie Mae Gibson, FBI (127017) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7349340) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7201036) **3.05** The Manhunter (868949) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (5725678)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (54413) **9.00** The Morning Line: Cheltenham (82974) **9.30** Ysgolion (997790) **12.00pm** House To House (69210) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (81974) **1.00** Journeyman (57500) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing - Cheltenham (881061) **4.30** The Cosby Show (516) **5.00** 5 Pump (6090) **5.30** Countdown (968) **6.00** Newyddion (982332) **6.15** Heno (973535) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (4326) **7.30** Taclu (77448) **8.30** Newyddion (2581) **9.00** O Flaen Dy Lygaid Cowbois Cymru (2065) **10.00** Rising Damp (77239) **10.30** Hearts And Minds (4915245) **11.35** Alternative Fringe (498332) **11.45** Channel 4 Racing - Cheltenham (389500) **12.30am** Secret Lives: Walt Disney (64104)

هكذا من الاصل

FILMS ON TELEVISION

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 15

☐ **The Ladies' Man** (1961, Sky Movies, 2pm, 106 mins). Still held in rock-idol esteem in France, a nation which melts at the mere sight of this clown, Jerry Lewis proves his mettle in his second adventure as a director, in which he plays a mysogynist houseboy in a boarding school for hopeful actresses. Lewis makes the most of his grandiose sets relishes his swooping camera moves, which mirror his own brand of pratfall comedy, and his tango with George Raft (in a delicious cameo) is one particular treat. The director's ever-agile camera was, infact, a direct influence on both Jean-Luc Godard and Julien Temple. Non-Frenchmen may watch too.

☐ **Seven Days In May** (1964, Sky Movies, 4pm, 120 mins). John Frankenheimer's incisive political thriller, about a military plan to overthrow the government (president, Fredric March), includes two sturdy performances from Burt Lancaster (the military) and Kirk Douglas (the colonel who learns of the plot). Both fine actors contribute to the intelligence of the piece, and Frankenheimer employs gadgets and gizmos as a telling metaphor for control.

☐ **Arachnophobia** (1990, ITV, 8pm, 120 mins). A tribute to the B-movie suspense of the 1950s, which had you vanishing inside your palova with fear, this big-budget update skilfully balances creepy thrills with black fun when spiders upset the equilibrium of small-town America. John Goodman amuses as a yobbo bug exterminator. The directorial debut of long-time Spielberg producer Frank Marshall. Screams aplenty, though edited for television.

☐ **Alive** (1992, Sky Movies, 8pm, 122 mins). Based on a true story of a South American rugby team whose plane crashed in the Andes, forcing them to resort to cannibalism, the film is buoyed up by superior thrills (especially the plane crash itself) and character intensity, and only let down by a few miles of dialogue that is spoken, rather than acted.

☐ **In the Heat of the Night** (1967, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 109 mins). Deep South sensitivities meant that a typical Mississippi backwater had to be built in Illinois, but Norman Jewison's slow-burning, claustrophobic direction ensures that Southern sweat drips off the screen. As the dim, racist sheriff and arrogant black detective, Rod Steiger and Sidney Poitier have never been more accomplished. While Poitier explodes in frustration, Steiger seethes malice.

☐ **Heartbreakers** (1984, BBC 1, 11.30pm, 95 mins). In a close, but shifting, male friendship, with drama from the impact of money, perpetual striving, jealousy and girlfriends, the emotional cauldron also bubbles with style and wit. Peter Coyote, who plays the poor artist, and Nick Mancuso, his rich businessman chum in need of love, meet the challenge of two full roles and reveal an ability to both move and amuse. Director Bobby Roth's creative use of Los Angeles locations helps generate the sombre mood, as does Michael Ballhaus's luminous photography, and a throbbing score by Tangerine Dream. Not the usual West Coast work of irritating introspection.

☐ **The Loves of Carmen** (1948, Channel 4, 2am, 100 mins). Essentially an A-Z of *Carmen* without the benefit of Bizet, this is an unfussy outing for most of the cast, with the exception of Rita Hayworth as the man-destroying gypsy. The star is at one with Carmen's strutting, posturing and dark intelligence.

THURSDAY

MARCH 16

☐ **House Of Secrets** (1956, BBC 1, 2.15pm, 95 mins). Bouncing unsteadily between tension and blandness, this has a fetching *Boys' Own Paper* innocence in its tale of an upright naval officer who is arrested instead of a look-alike counterfeiter. When the latter dies, the honest officer infiltrates the gang to stop Britain being flooded with forged fivers.

☐ **Honeymoon In Vegas** (1992, Sky Movies, 8pm, 93 mins). A nostalgic blast of screwball comedy, this is also a romantic comedy with guts. Careering along at appropriately breakneck speed, and spattered with comic gems (especially a lunatic group of sky-diving Elvises), this boasts Nicolas Cage, comically panic-driven and messed up, Sarah Jessica Parker, the perky object of his desire, and James Caan, who wins her at poker, Caan, all loud jackets, snarling asides, and corrupt intent, is the film's biggest source of fun.

☐ **Baby Snatcher** (1992, Channel 4, 10pm, 105 mins). Another example of a real-life story which America's tabloids dignified with shock horror headlines and exclamation marks, the reality emerges here with a credible, insinuating power that never shies away from psychological or emotional truth. A pregnant woman loses her child to abduct a young girl. Veronica Hamel succeeds amply in the main role.

☐ **Bram Stoker's Dracula** (1992, Sky Movies, 10pm, 122 mins). A transfixing visual feast which is lit up by a palpable, raging eroticism (never snuffed out by the occasional loss of narrative grip), this has a splendidly big performance by Gary Oldman, who plays the Count with the right degree of sadness and menace. Despite his bouffant hair-do and long fingernails, he is not at all tempted by caricature. Sadly Anthony Hopkins, as Van Helsing, is ironed out in to one dimension, while Keanu Reeves utters his lines in the manner of the terminally bland. He thus unbalances the otherwise surging drama.

☐ **Bob Roberts** (1992, Sky Movies, 12.10am, 99 mins). Loading the dice in such a way that his greasy Republican politician is too obviously corrupt, Tim Robbins (both director and star) still takes us on an enjoyable canter through contemporary American politics. With endless barbs at the self-obsession of politicians, the image-making process and public gullibility, this features Robbins as an off-the-leash right-winger who, however, spouts inanities to suit the occasion. Robbins, who despite his distinctive appearance, can almost vanish beneath the skin of a role, is darkly convincing throughout, with Alan Rickman supplying an amusing parody of a sinister adviser.

☐ **The Knack ... And How To Get It** (1965, BBC 1, 12.15am, 85 mins). The director Dick Lester is probably the kind of chap who plays all his old albums at 78rpm, and outruns Roger Bannister just to go down to the corner shop. His craz-e-e-e camera style (See *A Hard Day's Night* for further details), serves to accentuate the anarchic visual gags and, paradoxically, is actually part of his sure control of form. Much hilarity is squeezed from the encounters between a frustrated teacher, his randy lodger, and a gormless girl from the North.

☐ **Jewel Robbery** (1932, Channel 4, 2.40am, 75 mins). See Pick Of The Week, page 7.

FRIDAY

MARCH 17

☐ **Call Northside 777** (1948, Movie Channel, 1.10pm, 111 mins). The then-fashionable semi-documentary style, which Warner Bros had embraced through a string of racy thrillers, and penchant for location shooting — the jagged beauty of Chicago is fully exploited — combine forces in this sleak, panting thriller which stamps in the face of establishment cynicism. The sharply crafted suspense still gives breathing space to James Stewart, whose development from scoop-hungry hack to crusader for justice, a drama all its own, is a joy.

☐ **Overboard** (1987, The Movie Channel, 5.30pm, 112 mins). The absence of surprise in this love-across-the-classes romp is generally transcended by Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn, who both have a way with breezy frivolity, neat timing, and cute lines. Hawn's a spoiled, mouthy heiress who falls off her yacht, suffers amnesia, and is targeted by blue-collar carpenter Russell. Naturally, decency, spontaneity and earthiness triumph over big bucks.

☐ **Bugsy** (1991, The Movie Channel, 10pm, 135 mins). Director Barry Levinson allows style and substance to flow happily in unison. Warren Beatty, meanwhile, as gangster Bugsy Siegel, the single-minded dreamer who built Las Vegas, for once digs deep. Beefy support from Harvey Keitel, Ben Kingsley, and Annette Bening.

☐ **Revolution** (1985, BBC 2, 12.15am, 125 mins). Sometimes critics all jump on the same bus and get their fangs in to a movie which is later discovered to have some worth. *Heaven's Gate* is one such spectacular example. However, not even fully comatose hacks could have mistaken *Revolution* as anything other than a sad, shapeless mess. Director Hugh Hudson, who seems to have been on a permanent tea break while the cameras were rolling, perhaps forgot to ask for a script, and so tries to energise the film with big, swirling images. Moreover, Al Pacino, looking like a lost spaniel, belongs more to the contemporary Bronx than to the American War of Independence. Be mesmerised by its awfulness.

☐ **Static** (1985, Channel 4, 12.35am, 100 mins). Co-written by the film's star, Keith Gordon, and director Mark Romanek, this really cooks with imagination for much of it's life before being extinguished by an onslaught of cliches. Notionally about the quest for things spiritual in the midst of deadening consumerism, and about the position of the outsider, this amusement [illegible] Gordon as an eager youngster who invents a television set which can tune in to Heaven. Ambitious, flawed, but intriguing.

☐ **Comic Relief Viewers' Choice** (BBC 1, 1am, all 110 mins). At one in the morning, when cackling comes easy (courtesy of exhaustion or alcohol), you may now dial-a-giggle as part of the laughter marathon that is Comic Relief. As you have probably seen, seen and seen again, Clouseau's Goonish antics (*The Pink Panther*), Barbara Windsor's bra leaping off her chest (*Carry On Camping*), and the baked beans scene with accompanying noises (*Blazing Saddles*), why not try *Little Shop Of Horrors*, a vigorously silly tale of a nerdy flower-shop assistant and a man-eating plant? Rick Moranis stars, and Steve Martin splits sides parodying machismo.

DRAMA OF THE WEEK

Gifted but isolated

Adam Hann-Byrd as the precocious Fred, *Little Man Tate*

The life of the ultra-bright child can be very lonely and dismal, with few points of contact with contemporaries. It is even worse if the intellectual level is so advanced that the child is capable of pursuing a university course before puberty; undergraduates are not known to act well sharing space with a classmate who is barely into the shoelace-tying age. The problems of such children have rarely attracted serious examination by film-makers, possibly because realistic super-intelligence is regarded in Hollywood as a big turn-off for the mass audience.

It was therefore a brave choice for Jodie Foster, a former child actress who went on to graduate from Yale, to make such an assured directorial debut in 1991 with **Little Man Tate** (tomorrow, Sunday, Channel 4, 10pm.) She also plays Dede, the working-class mother of a little genius, the seven-year-old Fred, portrayed with striking gravitas by Adam Hann-Byrd. He has no father, and Dede ekes out a living as a bar waitress, dedicating her entire emotional life to her son. She tolerates rather than encourages his accomplishments, which embrace painting, music and poetry, as well as abnormal mathematical skill. But Fred is ill-served by a school system not geared to cope with him, and is obliged to rein in his intelligence in order not to humiliate his teachers. So distanced is he from the other children that none is prepared to venture to his birthday party.

Enter Jane (Dianne Wiest), a wealthy, brilliant psychologist who runs a foundation for super-intelligent youngsters. She persuades the reluctant Dede to let her have Fred on the team for a national mind-bending contest of gifted children, and to spend a summer living in her mansion and studying at the nearby university. Fred is suddenly with his own kind, although to outsiders a few of these children may seem totally obnoxious. One of the most wearisome even wears a cape when is on stage performing "mathemagical" feats of mental calculation.

Jane, unattached, exudes all the warmth of an ice cube; she is all order and intellect, and has never actually hugged a child in her life. Fred needs both women, who have nothing in common except their mutual antipathy, if he is to develop as a reasonably happy human being. The challenge to the screenwriter, Scott Frank, is to work out a satisfactory resolution. Alas, it is ultimately unconvincing, unlike the performances, which are exceptional, and there seems to be an attempt to provide a fairy-tale ending, with an eye on the box office. The brief appearance of Harry Connick Jr, as an older student at the university who accepts Fred as he is, and teaches him pool and how to play a piano bar-room style, is pleasantly acceptable.

In *Little Man Tate* there is an autobiographical element. Foster herself was already an accomplished actress by the time she was three, and spent a childhood distanced from ordinary children. She is one of the relatively rare cases where prodigies go on to formidable achievements in adulthood. Many burn up, fade away as they reach maturity and are never heard of again.

RICHARD SCOTT

SATURDAY MARCH 11

SKY ONE

6.00am The Three Stooges (48411) **6.30** The Lucy Show (65053) **7.00** DJ's KTV. Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors (16275) **7.30** Dennis (2733701) **7.45** Superboy (34324) **8.15** Inspector Gadget (820255) **8.45** Super Mario Brothers (829527) **9.15** Bump in the Night (819140) **9.45** Highlander (818411) **10.15** Orson and Olivia (5706053) **11.00** Phantom 2040 (54324) **11.30** VR Troopers (55053) **12.00** World Wrestling Federation Mania (55527) **1.00pm** Paradise Beach (15540) **1.30** Totally Hidden Video (68091) **2.00** Knights and Warriors (80362) **3.00** Three's Company (2121) **3.30** Baby Talk (6053) **4.00** Adventures of Brisco County Jr (76004) **5.00** Parker Lewis Can't Lose (4966) **5.30** VR Troopers (5324) **6.00** Gamesworld Final (41411) **7.00** World Wrestling Federation Superstars (85782) **8.00** The Extraordinary (04430) **9.00** Cops I (74188) **9.30** Cops II (66256) **10.00** Tales from the Crypt (28985) **10.30** Seinfeld (37633) **11.00** The Movie Show (79633) **11.30** Raven (868166) **12.40am** Monsters (4957473) **1.00** The Edge (12164) **1.30** The Adventures of Mark and Brian (73763) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (7267760)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (1542879) **9.30** Special Report (28922) **10.30** ABC Nightline (98546) **11.30** Sky Destinations (92188) **12.30pm** Week in Review UK (92362) **1.30** Those Were the Days (93091) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (84904) **3.30** Target (27546) **4.30** Week in Review UK (2614) **5.00** Live at Five (12633) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (69695) **7.30** Sportsline Live (37898) **8.30** Special Report (21362) **9.30** CBS 48 Hours (63029) **11.30** Sportsline Extra (52898) **12.30am** Sky Destinations (98560) **1.30** Those Were the Days (28522) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (35947) **3.30** Week in Review — UK (68544) **4.30** Special Report (65164) **5.30-6.00** CBS 48 Hours (67928)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (20275) **8.00 Dream Chasers** (1985): A young boy with a fatal illness is befriended by an old adventurer (71614) **10.00 Mr Nanny** (1993): Wrestler Hulk Hogan becomes a nanny to two brilliant children and has to rescue them from kidnapping (47508) **12.00 The Sea Wolves** (1980). Comic adventure with David Niven, Gregory Peck and Roger Moore as polo-playing soldiers (61237) **2.00pm Age of Treason** (1993): In Ancient Rome, Bryan Brown plays a detective out to track down a senator's missing son (16643) **4.00 Courage of Lassie** (1946): Elizabeth Taylor comforts the collie (1633) **6.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog!** (1980). Chevy Chase is reincarnated as a dog in this comedy with Jane Seymour (95169) **8.00 Mr Nanny** (1993): As 10am (90614) **10.00 Malcolm X** (1992) Thriller with Wesley Snipes chasing the killer of a colleague (8831546) **1.20am Secret Games II: The Escort** (1993): Erotic drama with Martin Hewitt as a bored husband falling in love with the prostitute he hires to spice up his life (353831) **2.55 Company Business** (1991): Post-Cold War thriller starring Gene Hackman and Mikhail Baryshnikov (459247) **4.30-6.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog!** (1980): As 6pm (63947)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm This Gun For Hire (1942) Gunman Alan Ladd seeks revenge in this film noir classic with Veronica Lake (90324) **5.30 The Naked and the Dead** (1958): Tough-talking sergeant Aldo Ray leads his platoon behind enemy lines in the Pacific (63459053) **7.40 Elmer Gantry** (1960): Burt Lancaster gives an Oscar-winning performance as a charlatan evangelist (99361430) **10.05-12.00 Hamburger Hill** (1987). Brutal re-creation of a Vietnam battle which left many casualties (118850)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Hong Kong (1951): A crook tries to steal an antique from an orphaned Chinese girl, but soon sees the error of his ways (80692459) **7.35 The Great Missouri Raid** (1950): The James brothers' exploits during the Civil War (1097188) **9.05 While The City Sleeps** (1956): Dana Andrews and Ida Lupino in Fritz Lang's melodrama about three newspaper executives (25390121) **10.45 My Man Godfrey** (1936): An eccentric family invite a tramp to be their butler (65051669) **12.20pm My Girl** (1991): A tomboy teams up with his best friend, Macaulay Culkin, when dad Dan Aykroyd falls for a new woman (749701) **2.10 My Friend Walter** (1992): A small girl is confronted by the ghost of Sir Walter Raleigh while visiting the Tower of London (634430) **4.00 Remote** (1993): Children's adventure film (9275) **6.00 My Girl** (1991): As 12.20pm (98411) **8.00 My Cousin Vinny** (1992): Farce about lawyer Joe Pesci travelling to Alabama to defend his young cousin accused of murder (98256) **10.00 The Fugitive** (1993): Harrison Ford plays a doctor accused of murdering his wife who goes on the run (87069256) **12.20am, Stalking Laura** (1993): Thriller with Brooke Shields being harassed by psycho computer specialist Richard Thomas (850928) **2.00 My Cousin Vinny** (1992): As 8pm (76831) **4.00-5.30 Uninhibited** (1991): Erotic entertainment for adults (13524)

[illegible]

7.00am Gillette World Sport (21121) **7.30** Get Your Handicap Down (40256) **8.00** National Trails (42140) **8.30** Max Out (41411) **9.00** Ringside Boxing (19698) **11.00** Scottish Football: Celtic v Kilmarnock (73940) **1.00pm** Football Preview (99546) **2.00** Sports (7381817) **5.30** NBA Action (4850) **6.00** Scorelines (4091) **6.30** Extreme Skiing (5343) **7.00** International Schoolboy Football: England v Brazil (41985) **9.00** Hold the Back Page (27762) **10.00** Bushido (37169) **11.00** Get Your Handicap Down (99411) **11.30** International Football Schoolboy (74650) **1.30am** World Soccer (84893) **2.00-5.00** Ringside Special — Live: Herbie Hide v Riddick Bowe (3727947)

Preacher with sharp practices

ARGUABLY the late Burt Lancaster's finest performance, in the title role, deservedly won him an Oscar for **Elmer Gantry** (Sky Movies Gold, 7.40pm). The screenplay, by Richard Brooks, who also directed, also won an Oscar, as did Shirley Jones. The original story, as told in Sinclair Lewis's novel, is set in the 1920s, and concerns a crooked preacher (Lancaster), who exploits a travelling gospel show led by Jean Simmons (above, with Lancaster in the background). Jones is a woman whom he has spurned and who turns to prostitution, and Arthur Kennedy plays a dirt-digging journalist on Lancaster's trail. Dean Jagger and Patti Page also feature. The tale of exploitation and hypocrisy is as topical as ever.

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer AM (1440411) **11.00** NBA Basketball (9584898) **1.00pm** Freestyle Skiing (9810817) **1.30** World of Rugby Union (1512633) **2.00** Rugby Union — Live. Heriots Former Pupils v Stirling County (12212985) **4.15** Fish Tales (43427966). **4.30** Gillette World Sport Special (4936898) **5.00** Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (4301701) **7.00** Rugby Union Update (9891782) **9.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA — Live (5898237) **11.00** Snowboarding Tour (4633091) **11.30-12.00** ATP Tennis Magazine (4465898)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Nordic Skiing (95324) **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing (1884956) **12.00** Live Freestyle Skiing (47695) **12.30pm** Live Athletics (16966) **1.30** Live Figure Skating (7373898) **5.00** Live Athletics (850275) **7.30** Live Nordic Skiing (33782) **9.00** Boxing (12850) **10.00** Golf (84594) **12.00-1.00** International Motorsports Report (46096)

[illegible]

9.00am Munro Show (2177324) **9.30** Charlie White's Fishing Machine (5368140) **10.00** Shoot the Video (2116898) **10.30** Blitz on Cartooning (2173608) **11.00** Acorn (9868904) **11.30** History Makers (5742985) **12.30pm** Munro Show (5399256) **1.00** Charlie White's Fishing Machine (8777362) **1.30** Shoot the Video (5398527) **2.00** Blitz on Cartooning (2279817) **2.30** Acorn (1225695) **3.00-4.00** History Makers (7731029)

UK GOLD

7.00am Lassie (8747121) **7.30** Great Expectations (8768255) **8.00** Five Children and It (2196469) **8.30** Swallows and Amazons (2188430) **9.00** Flesh and Blood (3686695) **10.00** Sutherland's Law (8755140) **11.00** Hazell (8775904) **12.00** Moonbase 3 (5370121) **1.00pm** The Pink Panther Show (46127985) **1.15** Neighbours Omnibus (7195324) **3.15** EastEnders Omnibus (85528121) **6.00** Blake's Seven (5309633) **7.00** Thunderbirds (9948492) **8.00** Van Der Valk (55663324) **9.05** The Sweeney (53807072) **10.10** FILM: Under Fire (1983): Photo-journalist Nick Nolte is won over by the Nicaraguan rebels (67664469) **12.35am** In Concert: Hothouse Flowers (5742305) **1.25** Rockliffe's Babies (6231218) **2.25-3.30** Shopping at Night (62659102)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Droibee Time (16362) **7.00** Willy Fogg (61324) **7.30** Charlie Brown (60459) **8.00** Garfield (66966) **8.30** Dungeons and Dragons (87237) **9.00** Prince Valiant (98797) **9.30** Flash (27343) **10.00** Runaway Bay (34782) **10.30** Beakman's World (90701) **11.00** Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (58188) **11.30** Gigantor (59817) **12.00** He-Man (81053) **12.30pm** Bots Master (38459) **1.00** Cadillacs (60695) **1.30** Eek (20430) **2.00** Pugwall's Summer (3898) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (5782) **3.00** Degrassi (5633) **3.30** Ready or Not (7627) **4.00-5.00** Heartbreak High (32140)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Muppet Special: The Frog Prince (31782) **8.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (40782) **8.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (49053) **9.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (63633) **9.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (98817) **10.00** Grimmy (23091) **10.30** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (69817) **11.00** Doug (84512) **11.30** Rugrats (34071) **12.00** Aaah! Real Monsters (50169) **12.30pm** Ren and Stimpy (92633) **1.00** Clarissa Explains it all (51362) **1.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (91904) **2.00** The Adventures of Pete and Pete (1922) **2.30** School of the Week (1904) **3.00** Turtles Gold (9817) **3.30** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (3121) **4.00** You Choose (2256) **4.30** Rugrats (1140) **5.00** Doug (4362) **5.30** Ren and Stimpy (2492) **6.00** Nickalive! (2633) **6.30-7.00** Roundhouse (3985)

DISCOVERY

4.00-8.00pm Saturday Stack — Wings of the Red Star: The Great Patriotic War (1668164); **5.00** Supersonic Transport (2272904); **6.00** Russian Giants (5307275); **7.00** The Phantom's Foe (9979362) **8.00** Invention (2259053) **8.30** Treasure Hunters (2278166) **9.00** Predators (9975546) **10.00** Submarines (9978633) **11.00-12.00** Beyond 2000 (8754411)

[illegible]

12.00 Man from Interpol (2184814) **12.30pm** Get Smart (5386782) **1.00** Cannon (5381237) **2.00** The Fantastic Journey (2104053) **3.00** The Time Tunnel (5753795) **4.00** FILM: Bonnie Prince Charlie (1948) (2256986) **6.00** FILM: Smiley (1957): A boy works to pay for a bicycle, but his father takes the cash to settle his gambling debts (9958879) **8.00** FILM: Circus of Horrors (1960): A plastic surgeon on the run takes over a tatty circus, whose performers start to have horrific accidents (97360169) **9.45-12.00** FILM: Britannia Hospital (1982). Hospital comedy with Leonard Rossiter (89532782)

UK LIVING

6.00am Best of Agony Hour (6155256) **7.00** Living Magazine Highlights (7178898) **9.00** On the House (1281968) **9.30** Health UK (8460411) **10.00** Best of Anne and Nick (79910850) **12.05pm** Best of Kilroy (4444256) **1.00** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7178985) **1.30** Now You See It (64895985) **1.55** Raw Energy (3193633) **2.30** The Treatment (9386459) **3.00**. FILM: Child's Cry (1986): An emotionally scarred social worker unravels the mystery surrounding a six-year-old (27741701) **4.50** Sneak Scenes — Only You (23909527) **5.00** Infatuation UK (6223411) **5.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (9380275) **6.00** Best of Anne and Nick (9828633) **8.00** The Visit (9829362) **9.00** Come Dancing (1610275) **9.30** Infatuation (8474091) **10.00** FILM: The Rape of Richard Beck (1985): A tough homicide detective is raped by two thugs (4084237) **11.50-12.00** Sneak Scenes — Trapped in Paradise (8819701)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm FILM How I Spent My Summer Vacation (1990): A summer-camp owner's plans to give his visitors a pleasant time are thwarted by unruly teenagers (42630508) **6.50** Dangermouse (414256) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (7614) **7.30** Catchphrase (5275) **8.00** Concentration (6362) **8.30** Evening Shade (2169) **9.00** Sirens (78430) **10.00** FILM: The Gentleman Bandit (1980). A priest is arrested for a series of hold-ups (494782) **11.50** Bordertown (823546) **12.20am** All Together Now (1719522) **12.50** The Wonder Years (2778251) **1.15** FILM: How I Spent My Summer Vacation (1990). As 5pm (906812) **3.05-5.00** FILM. The Gentleman Bandit (1980): As 10pm (136812)

MTV

7.00am Carnival Weekend (69966) **9.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (76575) **9.30** The Zig and Zag Show (29701) **10.00** The Big Picture (36140) **10.30** Hit List UK (93492) **12.30** First Look (30817) **1.00pm** Carnival Weekend (504343) **4.00** Dance (41898) **5.00** The Big Picture (8508) **5.30** MTV News Weekend Edition (8256) **6.00** European Top 20 Countdown (66695) **8.00** Unplugged (67324) **9.00** Soul of (87188) **10.00** First Look (84140) **10.30** The Zig and Zag Show (53148) **11.00** Yo! Raps (35169) **1.00am** The Worst of Most Wanted (27034) **1.30** Chill Out Zone (11270) **3.00-7.00** Night Videos (5405657)

VH-1

7.00am Breakfast in Bed (5044140) **9.30** Café VH-1 (3787850) **12.00** Ten of the Best (1501527) **1.00pm** Into the Music (4459237) **3.00** VH-1 Album Chart Show (4205879) **5.00** Best of the Bridge (7171701) **6.00** VH-1 To 1: Elvis Costello (4919121) **6.30** Old Grey Whistle Test (4933701) **7.00** The Yardbirds Rock Stories (5811188) **8.00** VH-1 Country — Are You Sure Hank Done it this Way? (5897508) **9.00** Saturday Night Live (4830904) **9.30** On the road. Neil Young (9642546) **11.30** Barry White's Love Line (4467256) **12.00-7.00am** The Green Machine (6372985)

[illegible]

Country music from 6am-7pm, including at 10.00am Top 12 Countdown 12.00-1.00pm Jammin' Country 5.00 Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00 Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (65394324) **7.30** Shabad (66313459) **8.00** Junglee Toofan Tyre Puncture (75833695) **8.30** Saanp Seedi (75832966) **9.00** UNICEF/Kids (75856546) **9.30** Khana Khazana (81772140) **10.00** Seeriyan (66302343) **11.00** Mutthi Bhar Sitare (34346324) **11.30** Get Set Go (34347053) **12.00** Gaane Anjaane (75836782) **12.30pm** Teer Kaman (81783256) **1.00** Movie (29028614) **4.00** Aandhi (34360904) **5.00** Hum Zamaan (92333275) **5.30** Video Junction (78600459) **6.00** Kya Scene Hai (78690072) **6.30** Manasi (78681324) **7.00** Sajan Sajni (92313411) **7.30** Pakistani Serial: Mystery theatre (78587508) **8.00** Galaxzee (92339459) **8.30** Premiere Movie (18984985) **11.30-12.00** Shakti (49147508)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

Theme. Action Factor

7.00pm Valley of the Kings (1954): An archaeological expedition sets of for a Pharaoh's tomb. Starring Robert Taylor and Eleanor Parker (16683633) **9.00 Trader Horn** (1973): Rod Taylor and Anne Heywood in a glossy safari adventure (76117898) **11.00 Watusi** (1959): Hunter George Montgomery leads an African treasure expedition (22633633) **12.30am The Mask of Sheba** (1970): Walter Pidgeon hunts for a gold statue (80496522) **2.15-5.00 Trader Horn**: As 9pm (73582893)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (94492) **1.05** Anglia News and Weather (45948169) **1.10** Eye TV (57933614) **1.40** Champions League Special (35870879) **2.10** Agatha Christie's 13 at Dinner (348121) **3.50-4.45** Knight Rider (1118072) **5.05** Anglia News, Sport and Weather (7199817) **5.20-5.25** Warner Cartoon (2300343) **11.00** Tropical Heat (537985) **11.55** Kojak Ariana (969966) **1.40am** American Gladiators (3091812) **2.35** BPM (8575812) **3.30** The Big E (8391299) **4.15** On the Live Side (13320251) **4.30** America's Top Ten (17034) **5.00-5.30** Movies, Games and Videos (73102)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (94492) **1.10** Eye TV (57933614) **1.40** Champions League Special (35870879) **2.10-4.00** Brief Encounter (478576) **5.05** Central News and Weather (2389850) **5.10-5.25** Central Match - Goals Extra (6902627) **11.00-1.00pm** Silver Streak (20614) **4.35am** Jobfinder (2065454) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7285080)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Eye TV (98452) **1.05** Granada News (45102365) **1.10** Film: Ashanti (74707704) **3.15** Knight Rider (4441088) **4.10-4.45** Car of the Year 95 (2260181) **5.00** Granada News (2551075) **5.05-5.20** Granada Goals Extra (7353013) **12.50am** Tropical Heat (1219050) **1.45** The Big E (3201079) **2.40** American Gladiators (7058872) **3.30** BPM (2189501) **4.35** Sportsworld (76889563) **5.00-5.30** ITV Sport Classics (44834)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Eye TV (94492) **1.05-1.10** HTV West Headlines and Weather (45948169) **1.40-2.30** seaQuest DSV (3724782) **3.00** The A-Team (4291985) **3.50-4.45** Knight Rider (1118072) **5.05** HTV West News and Sports Results (6984362) **5.15-5.25** Cartoon Time (6990546) **11.00-1.00pm** Dracula (20614)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Eye TV (94492) **1.40** Wanted Dead or Alive (35870879) **2.10** The Munsters Today (35061072) **2.40** Warner Cartoon (9488508) **2.45** seaQuest DSV (526188) **3.45-4.45** Knight Rider (516072) **5.05** Meridian News and Weather (7199817) **5.20-5.25** Warner Cartoon (2300343) **11.00** Crime Story (537985) **11.55** Kojak: Ariana (969966) **1.40am** American Gladiators (3091812) **2.35** BPM (8575812) **3.30** The Big E (8391299) **4.15** On the Live Side (13320251) **4.30** Top Ten (17034) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (73102)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (94492) **1.05-1.10** Tyne Tees News and Weather (45948169) **1.40** The Motor Show (35870879) **2.10** Cartoon (87023850) **2.20** Wilde's Domain (1915481) **3.50-4.45** Knight Rider (1118072) **5.05-5.20** Tyne Tees Saturday (7199817) **11.00** 10 (31461053) **1.10am** Coach (4645947) **1.35** Tour of Duty (3009831) **2.30** BPM (80812) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (8194893) **4.25** Cue the Music (2205812) **5.20-5.30** Profile (7285980)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (94492) **1.05** Westcountry News (45948169) **1.10** Eye TV (57933614) **1.40** Champions League Special (35870879) **2.10** The Great Balloon Adventure (510411) **3.45-4.45** seaQuest DSV (515072) **5.05-5.20** Westcountry News (7199817) **11.00-1.00pm** Project X (20614)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (94492) **1.05-1.10** Calendar News and Weather (45948169) **1.40** The Motor Show (35870879) **2.10** Cartoon (87023850) **2.20** Wilde's Domain (1915481) **3.50-4.45** Knight Rider (1118072) **5.05** Calendar News (2389850) **5.10-5.20** Scoreline (5991275) **11.00** 10 (31461053) **1.10am** Coach (4645947) **1.35** Tour of Duty (3009831) **2.30** BPM (80812) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (8194893) **4.25** Cue the Music (2205812) **5.20-5.30** Profile (7285980)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 Ovide (9830898) **7.15** The Adventures Of Sonic The Hedgehog (5348459) **7.40** First Edition (5249072) **8.00** Transworld Sport (61985) **9.00** Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line (20091) **10.00** World Tennis (38527) **10.30** From The Horses Mouth After God, Racing (92546) **11.00** Gazzetta Football Italia (77362) **12.00pm** High 5 (1588362) **12.05** White Jazz (1461879) **12.30** Moviewatch (25362) **1.00** Sherlock Holmes And The Secret Weapon (87637256) **1.20** Chicken Ranch: Nick Broomfield (2081343) **2.15** Australian History (74661430) **2.40** Channel 4 Racing From Sandown Park (6293459) **2.50** The Word (5661546) **3.50** Diwedd (7261850) **5.05** Brookside (6949850) **6.30** Newyddion (692072) **6.40** Tocyn Tymor (344614) **7.40** Penwythnos Mawr (820850) **8.30** Teulu (98459) **9.30** Paul Merton - The Second Series (12898) **10.00** The White Room (6285091) **11.05** The Red Light Zone (390411) **11.05** NYPD Nude (140508) **11.40** The Peanut Club (531091) **11.50** White Jazz (899072)

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 15

CHOICE: euthanasia in The Netherlands; fighting drug addiction in Belfast; tests during pregnancy

Where the law allows you to choose to die

A documentary from The Netherlands, notable for its sensitivity and objective handling of a contentious subject, **Modern Times: Death on Request** (BBC 2, 9pm) claims to offer the first portrayal on television of a mercy killing. Cees is in his early sixties and terminally ill with a degenerative disease which is attacking his nerves and muscles. Unable to speak and deeply depressed, he decides to take advantage of the Dutch law on euthanasia.

For ten years Michelle Kelly from Belfast was heavily addicted to drugs. She knew if she did not kick the habit she would be dead by 30. Two years ago she decided to stop and in a video diary: **A Comic Relief Special: Michelle's Story** (BBC 1, 10.20pm) she charts her attempt to rebuild her life. Central to her rehabilitation is an alcohol- and drug-free bar funded by Comic Relief. The process is hard and painful and Michelle relies on the support of Arthur, another former addict, and her boyfriend, Jim.

The CVS (chronic villus sampling test) is widely given to pregnant women to reassure them about the health of their babies. It was introduced in the early 1980s to detect Down's Syndrome and other conditions likely to affect the babies of older women. But **Dispatches** (Channel 4, 9pm) suggests that the test may lead to limb and facial deformities in the child. Among women apparently affected as a result of CVS, one had an abortion after discovering the legs and one hand of the foetus were deformed, another gave birth to a son with severe facial damage and a third has a child with three shortened fingers and half her left foot missing.

First shown in 1992, Martin Gilbert's television life of Winston Churchill follows the method of his multi-volume biography. Gilbert is an historian who accumulates and sorts the evidence and presents it largely without comment. The result is workmanlike and reliable but without the dazzle of, say, an A.J.P. Taylor. **Churchill: Renegade and Turncoat** (BBC 2, 7pm), the first film, covers, somewhat breathlessly, Churchill's life until he became Prime Minister in May 1940. It is the story of an unhappy childhood and a bumpy political career which finally came good when Britain needed a saviour. The facts may not be new but they are usefully embellished by testimony from family and secretaries.

PETER WAYMARK

Michelle with Arthur (centre) and Jim: BBC 1, 10.20pm

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (27080)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95166202)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (5217573)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7602554) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8619757)
10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday family magazine (s) (7954221)
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1460912) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** with Ross King (s) (7236825) **12.55 Regional News** (Ceefax) and weather (15869931)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (13738)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (77513405) **1.50 Going for Gold** (s) (77517221)
2.15 Alias Smith and Jones. Light-hearted western adventures starring Ben Murphy and Pete Duel (r) (3999221) **Wales:** Knots Landing
3.05 NEW **More of... Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave** (s) (5670467)
3.20 Brilliant Gardens. In the last of the series, Rula Lenska visits Wisley (6810757)
3.30 Popeye Double Bill (r) (2984047) **3.45 Sick as a Parrot** (s) (2972202) **4.00 Jackanory.** Henrietta Branford's *Dimanche Diller* (s) (4288573) **4.10 Potsworth and Co** (r) (6234931) **4.35 The Really Wild Show** (Ceefax) (s) (1505115)
5.00 Newsround (2200399) **5.05 The Biz.** Serial following the lives and loves of the pupils of the Markov School of Dance and Drama. (Ceefax) (s) (6006047)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (619844) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (283)
6.30 Regional news magazines (863) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours
7.00 This Is Your Life. Another unsuspecting worthy is surprised by Michael Aspel. (Ceefax) (s) (7660)
7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs magazine (937)
8.00 Hearts of Gold. Esther Rantzen, Carol Smillie and Mickey Hutton pay tribute to acts of courage and kindness. Including the story of how a young boy saved his sister from a burning car. (Ceefax) (s) (933554)
8.50 Points of View (Ceefax) (s) (684991)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5047)
9.30 Harry. Drama series starring Michael Elphick as an investigative reporter. Harry and Alice look into a soldier's secrets. (Ceefax) (s) (133134)
10.20 CHOICE **A Comic Relief Special: Michelle's Story.** (Ceefax) (460573)
11.00 The Stand Up Show. Comedy introduced by Barry Cryer (s) (5172) **Northern Ireland:** Return Journey 11.40 The Stand Up Show 12.15-1.50am Attack on Terror
11.30 FILM: Heartbreakers (1984) starring Peter Coyote, Nick Mancuso and Carole Laure. A frustrated artists and his feckless friend search for the meaning of life. Directed by Bobby Roth (741028)
1.05am Weather (1637887)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Exams — A Curious Kind of Ritual (7176950) **6.45** Poetry: Language and History (2939134) **7.10** Modern Art (5212080) **7.35** Mental Handicap (5822405)
8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6596115)
8.15 Westminster On-Line with Trevor Phillips (4084738)
9.00 Daytime on Two: Quinze Minutes (5358080) **9.15** Focus (7991863) **9.25** Study Ireland — Geography (5368467) **9.45** Storytime (5433641) **10.00** Playdays (8620863) **10.25** Watch: Homes across Europe (1767047) **10.40** Around Scotland (4975283) **11.00** Cats' Eyes (6308283) **11.15** Ghostwriter (777196) **11.45** Developing World (9119689) **12.10** The Geography Programme (5972370) **12.30** Working Lunch (65554) **1.00** The German Collection (57825641) **1.25** Zig Zag (87529283) **1.45** You and Me (25192931) **2.00** The Greedysaurus Gang (65741931) **2.05** Spider (65740202)
2.10 Songs of Praise with the American evangelist Billy Graham (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1300739)
2.45 Treasures of the Trust. St Michael's Mount, Cornwall, and Stourhead, Worcestershire (r) (4573432)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (4102047) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8884641)
4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz presented by Martyn Lewis (s) (776)
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook Innovative recipes (s) (660)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion on conflict between families and partners. (Ceefax) (s) (3970202)
5.40 One Lump or Two? Series on tea, introduced by Glynn Christian (686641)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Science-fiction adventures starring Patrick Stewart. (Ceefax) (s) (513028)
6.45 Natural Born Footballers. A profile of Denis Law. (Ceefax) (s) (109283)
7.00 CHOICE **Churchill: Renegade and Turncoat** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6641)
8.00 Magic Animals. The real and mythological lives of snakes. (Ceefax) (s) (4950)
8.30 University Challenge. The first semi-final pits Trinity College, Cambridge, against Aberdeen University. Jeremy Paxman asks the questions. (Ceefax) (s) (7347)
9.00 CHOICE **Modern Times: Death on Request.** (Ceefax) (s) (2825)
10.00 Room 101. Bob Monkhouse on the people, pieces and things he dislikes most (r). (Ceefax) (s) (40757)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (788028)
11.15 The Late Show. Michael Ignatieff chairs a discussion on euthanasia (s) (657844)
11.55 Weather (967496)
12.00 Environments. *Forest Futures* (8640697)
12.50am The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (3774210). Ends at 1.15
2.00-3.30 Night School: Teaching Today. Modern Languages (70535)
4.00-4.15 BBC Select: Benefits Agency Today (13243168)

CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (7675009)
9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3003641) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8607912)
10.00 The Time... the Place. John Stapleton presides over an invited studio audience as the discuss a topical issue (s) (7732592)
10.35 This Morning Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26399863) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1466196)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2945979)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2913370) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57837486)
1.55 Capital Woman. A report on a computer system which can give an accurate portrayal of how a range of new hairstyles would look (35707979) **2.25 A Country Practice.** Kate and Harry prepare for their fairy tale wedding (s) (74567660)
2.50 Blue Heelers (7085134) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6814573) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6813844)
3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (s) (2988863) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (8882283) **3.50 Talespin** (r) (s) (8492221) **4.20 Brill.** John Eccleston presents a new series (Teletext) (s) (8911399) **4.40 Cone Zone.** New six-part comedy-drama. (Teletext) (s) (9869757)
5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (6090486)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (976776)
5.55 Your Shout (880486)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (979)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (931)
7.00 Wish You Were Here...? Mike Reid and wife Shirley go golfing in South Carolina; Anna Walker reports from Llandudno in north Wales; and Judith Chalmers takes a hovercraft to France and explores the countryside around Paris. (Teletext) (s) (9028)
7.30 Coronation Street. Rodney plans to liven up the Rovers. (Teletext) (115)
8.00 FILM: Arachnophobia (1990) starring Jeff Daniels, Harley Jane Kozak and John Goodman. A new small-town doctor's patients are dropping like flies. It soon dawns on him that the culprits are a breed of killer spiders and he must overcome his terror of arachnids and destroy them. Directed by Frank Marshall (3931)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (37283)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (443573)
10.40 Champions League Highlights. Bob Wilson introduces highlights from tonight's quarter-final, second-leg matches (447134)
11.40 Magnum starring Tom Selleck as the laid-back detective (738283)
12.40 Alien Nation starring Gary Graham and Eric Pierpoint (s) (1964158)
1.35 Hollywood Report (s) (2021061)
2.05 The Beat with Gary Crowley (s) (6723516)
3.00 The Album Show featuring Celine Dion (s) (9467326)
4.05 Shift (2036784)
4.55 The Time... the Place (r) (s) (7553239)
5.30 ITN Morning News (84546). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Spiff and Hercules (2933950)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (r) (36689)
9.00 The Morning Line: The Cheltenham Festival. Previewing the day's racing (47660)
9.30 Schools Living and Growing (5301912) **9.46** Talk, Write and Read (5324863) **10.02** Stage Two Science (6974047) **10.18** The Jacobites (6953554) **10.40** Living with Technology (4781757) **10.55** Film and Video Showcase (6113370) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (6765950) **11.15** The Music Show (6316202) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (4948979) **11.45** First Edition (s) (4936134)
12.00 House to House. Maya Even discusses politics. (34196)
12.30pm Sesame Street. Queen Latifah is the guest, with I, O and the number two. (10757)
1.30 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Live coverage of the 2.15, 2.50, 3.30 and 4.05 races (s) (403047)
4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (888)
5.00 Ricki Lake: Families separated at birth. Ricki's guests agree to meet the children they gave up. (Teletext) (s) (8935689)
5.50 Terrytoons (870009)
6.00 All American Girl: Young at Heart. Grandma finds the man of her dreams. (Teletext) (s) (221)
6.30 Boy Meets World: Me and Mr Joad. Cory fights for his rights as a student. (Teletext) (s) (573)
7.00 Channel 4 News. Followed by Weather. (Teletext) (720776)
7.50 The Slot. Viewers' opinions. (788134)
8.00 Brookside. The growing hostility between Jacqui and Beth erupts on the Parade, and more Close residents fall ill. (Teletext) (s) (6318)
8.30 The Real Holiday Show. Two gay friends from Sheffield take a trip to Holland, a young couple visit New Orleans, and a ten-year-old boy goes to Corfu with his family and reports from the swimming pool. Presented by Gaby Roslin. (Teletext) (s) (5825)
9.00 CHOICE **Dispatches.** (Teletext) (940370)
9.45 Out of Order. Sarah Kent and Giles Auty disagree on the subject of modern art. (Teletext) (222554)
10.00 ER. American hopsital drama series. Benton and Langworthy compete for a fellowship while Ross and Hathaway's attraction escalates. Starring Eriq La Salle, Tyra Ferrell, George Clooney and Julianna Margulies. (Teletext) (s) (4680)
11.00 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. A review of the day's action (s) (3202)
11.30 Moviewatch. A look at *Disclosure* and an interview with Kevin Bacon. (r) (s) (346486)
12.05am The White Room. Music programme in Dolby Surround Sound, featuring Stevie Wonder. (r) (s) (2841239)
1.05 The Django Legacy. A portrait of jazz guitarist Django Reinhart. (s) (8177852)
2.10 FILM: The Loves of Carmen (1948). Rita Hayworth stars as the passionate, amoral gypsy whose charms lure dragoon Glenn Ford into her arms. Directed by Charles Vidor. Ends at 3.50 (897142)

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 15

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (79115) 8.00 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (77825) 8.30 Blockbusters (76196) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (24405) 10.00 Concentration (23641) 10.30 Card Sharks (89660) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (71776) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (70912) 12.30pm Anything But Love (10028) 1.00 St Elsewhere (43793) 2.00 If Tomorrow Comes (24370) 3.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6129863) 3.50 The DJ Kat Show (4037931) 3.55 Superhuman Samurai Syber Squad (9894221) 4.30 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (4080) 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (7689) 6.00 Murphy Brown (6573) 6.30 Family Ties (6825) 7.00 Rescue (8318) 7.30 M*A*S*H (2009) 8.00 RoboCop: Sci-fi spin-off with Richard Eden (49554) 10.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (88589) 11.00 Late Show with David Letterman (938738) 11.50 Littlejohn (628467) 12.40am Chances (3222852) 1.30 WKRP in Cincinnati (31351) 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play (8411608)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Sunrise (1440467) 9.30 Entertainment This Week (65370) 10.30 ABC Nightline (67202) 11.00 World News and Business (259414) 1.30pm CBS News This Morning (44399) 2.30 Parliament Live (71025) 4.00 World News and Business (27844) 5.00 Live at Five (8388757) 6.05 Richard Littlejohn (19346738) 8.00 World News and Business (70196) 9.30 O.J Simpson Trial Live (787486) 12.30am CBS News (83448) 1.30 Fashion TV (26018) 2.30 Parliament Replay (76559) 4.30 CBS News (59500) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (32005)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am **Showcase** (1390467) 10.00 **Elvis and the Colonel: The Untold Story** (1992): The story of Elvis Presley and his manipulative manager, Colonel Tom Parker (14844) 12.00 **Ghost in the Noonday Sun** (1973): Comedy with Peter Sellers (38573) 2.00pm **The Ladies' Man** (1961) Jerry Lewis comedy (42841) 4.00 **Seven Days in May** (1964): Burt Lancaster plots to remove the American President from office. With Kirk Douglas (5221) 6.00 **Elvis and the Colonel: The Untold Story** (1992): As 10am (62405) 8.00 **Alive** (1992): Fact-based drama about the survivors of a plane crash. With Ethan Hawke (96103950) 10.10 **Rapid Fire** (1992): Martial arts action with Brandon Lee (702844) 11.50 **Night Rhythms** (1992): Erotic thriller (285919) 1.35am **Off and Running** (1990): Offbeat comedy with Cyndi Lauper (9314332) 3.05-4.50 **Where It's At** (1969): A casino-owning father clashes with his graduate son. With David Janssen (16718697)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm **The Court Jester** (1955): Comedy with Danny Kaye (28009) 8.00 **In the Heat of the Night** (1967): Bigoted sheriff Rod Steiger reluctantly joins forces with black homicide detective Sidney Poitier (23554) 10.00-12.00 **The Getaway** (1972): Sam Peckinpah's classy thriller with Steve McQueen and Ali MacGraw teaming up to rob a bank (90738)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am **The Story of Esther Costello** (1957) Drama with Joan Crawford (62625) 8.00 **The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1985): Animated version of the Victor Hugo story (72889) 9.00 **Puss in Boots** (1983): Cartoon (17115) 10.00 **Just Around the Corner** (1938): Shirley Temple helps father Bert Lahr to succeed in business (3326370) 11.15 **Stand Up and Cheer** (1934): Shirley Temple in an early film role (7320221) 12.25pm **Mutiny on the Buses** (1973) Television spin-off with Reg Varney (557399) 2.00 **Greyhounds** (1993): Former cops Dennis Weaver and James Coburn are recalled for duty (40283) 4.00 **The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1985): As 8am (12912) 5.00 **Puss in Boots** (1983): As 9am (9329) 6.00 **Little Heroes** (1991): A poor girl's heroic deed changes her family's fortunes (77216) 7.30 **Special Feature: Robert De Niro** (8047) 8.00 **David's Mother** (1994): A mother puts the needs of her mentally impaired teenage son before her own. With Kirstie Alley and Sam Waterston (65592) 10.00 **Accidental Hero** (1992). Con man Dustin Hoffman rescues the survivors of a plane crash [illegible]

[illegible]

Working together, reluctantly

SEVERAL Oscars went to **In the Heat of the Night** (Sky Movies Gold, 8pm), produced and directed by Norman Jewison in 1967. Set in a small town in the southern states, it stars Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger (above) as a Philadelphia detective and the local sheriff, whose differing attitudes make their collaboration on solving a murder mystery anything but easy. Stirling Silliphant's screenplay does, however, allow both men to learn and grow in moral stature through their initial prejudice and hostility. Academy Awards went for best screenplay, best editing, to Steiger as best actor and for best picture, which must have encouraged the making of the sequels *They Call Me Mister Tibbs!* (1970) and *The Organization* (1971), but they did not have the participation of Steiger, Jewison and Silliphant.

8.00am Loving (4292009) 8.30 Peyton Place (4284080) 9.00 As the World Turns (4407738) 10.00 Guiding Light (9794825) 11.00-12.00 Another World (9714689)

[illegible]

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickelvel (4757825) 7.15 Pee-Wee (887047) 7.45 Rugrats (886318) 8.15 Doug (955912) 8.45 Nickelvel (8482592) 9.00 Nick Jr (634080) 12.00 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (30775) 12.30pm The Muppet Show [illegible]

[illegible]

Rhoda (32149) 4.30-6.00 Big Brother Jake (80177)

6.00am Wideside (39887) 6.30 The Grind (10776) 7.00 Wideside (45202) 8.00 VJ Ingo (557467) 11.00 Soul (35573) 12.00 Hits (66660) 1.00pm Snowball [illegible]

[illegible]

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8607912) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (1466196) 1.55 A Country Practice (77501650) 2.20 Gardening Time (74559641) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (7085134) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (6813844) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6090486) 6.25-7.00 Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (861202) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News (443573) 11.40 The Equalizer (314775) 12.35am-1.35 The Album Show (2022413) 2.05 America's Top Ten (7389968) 2.35 Shift (7395351) 3.25 The Little Picture Show (3142603) 4.20 Nite Bites (61948326) 4.30 The Time... the Place (66974) 5.00-5.30 The Munsters Today (51500)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8607912) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (1466196) 1.55 A Country Practice (77501660) 2.20 Gardening Time (74559641) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (7085134) 3.25-3.30 Central News (6813844) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6090486) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (861202) 10.30-10.40 Central News and Weather (443573) 11.40-12.40pm Central Sports Special (738283) 3.55am Profile (69986500) 4.05 Job finder (7411603) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7027908)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8607912) 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News (1466196) 12.55 Shortland Street (2913370) 1.25 Home and Away (87547809) 1.50 Highway to Heaven (6046979) 2.50-3.20 Coronation Street (7085134) 3.25-3.30 Granada News (6813844) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (6090486) 6.25 Granada Tonight (861202) 7.00-7.30 Wish You Were Here ..? (9028) 8.00 Arachnophobia (3931) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (37283) 10.30 Granada News (706554) 10.35 Being There (244283) 11.05 Champions League Highlights (315931) 12.10am Disaster Chronicles (4392022) 12.40 Alien Nation (1964158) 1.35 Hollywood Report (2021081) 2.05 The Best (6723516) 3.00 The Album Show (9467326) 4.05 Shift (2030784) 4.55-5.30 The Time.. the Place (7553239)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8607912) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (1466196) 1.55 Good Health! (35707979) 2.25 Good Advice (74558012) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7991118) 3.25-3.30 HTV West Headlines (6813844) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (6090486) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (931) 10.30-10.40 HTV West Headlines and Weather [illegible]

HTV WALES

[illegible]

MERIDIAN

[illegible]

WESTCOUNTRY

[illegible]

YORKSHIRE

[illegible]

S4C

[illegible]

SATURDAY MARCH 11

CHOICE: Sex on the box; Godden back in India

Not quite as wicked as we were led to believe

Having trailed its eight-week sexfest as "erotic, explicit and unashamed to tackle the issues of the flesh", Channel 4 has only itself to blame if **Red Light Zone** (from 11.05pm) attracts the wrong sort of attention. But those switching on tonight's offerings for disreputable reasons may be disappointed. The most substantial item, a self-profile of the American crime writer James Ellroy (*White Jazz*, 11.50pm), seems hardly to belong here at all, even if sexual obsession is an important strand in his life and writing. Otherwise, the piece about Carol Shaya, a New York police officer who took off her clothes for *Playboy* (*NYPD Nude*, 11.05pm), is a minor story elevated into a feminist debate, while *Blue* (12.55am) is a silly little film about pornographic fantasy. Probably the best bet is a repeat showing of *Chicken Ranch* (1.20am), Nick Broomfield's study of a legalised brothel in Nevada.

Rumer Godden has written 30 books but is best known for her Indian novels, *Black Narcissus* (written in 1939 and never out of print) and *The River*. In Sharon Maguire's eloquent film for **Bookmark** (BBC2, 8.05pm), Godden returns to India where she spent her formative years. Now 88, she looks back with a mixture of pain and pleasure on a privileged childhood, a disastrous marriage, trying to bring up two daughters on her own, and finally escaping to Britain after the Second World War, ill, penniless and disillusioned by her failure to embrace the Indian way of life. The story is underpinned with aptly-chosen extracts from her books. The film versions of *The River* (12.15pm) and *Black Narcissus* (2.50pm) are showing on BBC2 this afternoon.

Since it is put together at the last minute, I can offer only a provisional account of **The White Room** (Channel 4, 10pm, see feature, page 5). Hosted by Radio 1 disc jockey Mark Radcliffe, the series claims to offer "the finest in contemporary pop music", irrespective of age, sex, race or chart position. The aim is to allow the music to speak for itself, hence the plain white set and absence of chat, comedy or other interruptions. The first programme features Stevie Wonder, who just happens to have a new album out.

Revived after 12 years, **Auf Wiedersehen, Pet** (Channel 4, 9pm) comes up as fresh as ever. The saga of unemployed Geordie bricklayers looking for work in Germany is splendidly served by a Dick Clement-Ian Le Frenais script which combines sharp characterisation with sardonic humour and is played to the hilt by a hand-picked cast. Much of the fascination now is watching the then relatively unknown Jimmy Nail, Kevin Whately, Tim Healy and Timothy Spall.

PETER WAYMARK

Rumer Godden is the subject of *Bookmark* (BBC 2, 8.05pm)

BBC 1

7.25am **News** and weather (7391091)

7.30 **Pingu**. The adventures of a clumsy young penguin. (8817237) **7.35 Wham! Bam! Strawberry Jam!** Poetry for young viewers (s) (4244140) **7.50 Albert the 5th Musketeer** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5243898) **8.15 ChuckleVision**. Barry and Paul try running a fruit farm. (s) (4413430) **8.35 The Raccoons** (r) (2533430)

9.00 **Live and Kicking**. Saturday morning entertainment hosted by Andi Peters and Emma Forbes, including music, competitions and comedy (s) (96215966)

12.12pm **Weather** (1586904)

12.15 **Grandstand** introduced by Steve Rider. **12.20** Football Focus; **12.55, 1.25** and **1.55** Racing from Chepstow; **1.10** News summary (Ceefax); **1.15, 1.40** and **3.00** Athletics from Barcelona; **12.10** and **3.10** Rugby League: a preview and live coverage of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-final match between Widnes andWigan; **3.10** Rugby League; **4.00** Figure Skating from Birmingham (50910817) **4.40 Final Score** (7982898)

5.15 **News** (Ceefax) and weather (6965850)

5.25 **Regional News** and weather (2314546)

5.30 **Cartoon Double Bill**. *Speaking of the Weather* and *Sports Champions* (r) (191527)

5.45 **Big Break**. Jim Davidson hosts the snooker game show, with Ken Doherty, Joe Swail and Paul Davies. (Ceefax) (s) (527782)

6.15 **The New Adventures of Superman: The Source**. Another investigation for the mild-mannered reporter with a double life. A scoop for Lois Lane puts her informant in danger when the story threatens the murderous schemes of an electronics company boss. When Clark becomes involved his adoptive parents are put at risk. Starring Dean cain and Teri Hatcher. (Ceefax) (s) (753035)

7.00 **Noel's House Party**. The live party in Crinkley Bottom, with Grab-a-Grand and NTV. The guests include Derek Jameson (s) (297492)

7.50 **The National Lottery Live**. From St Paul's Hall in the University of Huddersfield, presented by Anthea Turner and Gordon Kennedy. (s) (992879)

8.05 **Casualty: Nobody's Perfect.** An air accident brings a pilot's illness out into the open, and Kate confronts Charlie about his relationship with Barbara Heynes. (Ceefax) (s) (449169)

8.55 **News** (Ceefax), sport and weather. Followed by National Lottery update (224275)

9.15 **Screen One: Down Among the Big Boys** starring Billy Connolly, Douglas Henshall and Maggie Bell. A thriller set in Glasgow's criminal underworld. Directed by Charles Gormley. (Ceefax) (r) (712343)

10.45 **Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley.** Highlights from the FA Cup sixth round matches plus a round-up of FA Premiership games and action from the Coventry City/Blackburn Rovers challenge. With comment and analysis from Alan Hensen and Gary Lineker. (s) (4036782)

11.53 **FILM: Victor/Victoria** (1982). An out of work singer stranded in Paris finds work by pretending to be a man posing as a woman. With Julie Andrews and James Garner. Directed by Blake Edwards. (Ceefax). (20687527)

2.05 **Weather** (7497831)

BBC 2

6.00 **Open University:** Technology **6.25** Four Towns and a Circus **6.50** Creative Management **7.15** The Location Problem **7.40** Magnetic Earth **8.05** Biology **8.30** Poetry — Language and History **8.55** Literature — What was Modernism **9.20** Developing World — The Poverty Complex **9.45** The Statistician Strikes Back **10.10** Copernicus and his World **10.35** Understanding Music — A Change of Key? **11.00** Managing Schools **11.25** The Chemistry of Almost Everything (s) (19328481)

12.15 **FILM: The River** (1951) starring Patricia Walters and Arthur Shields. Colourful story about the growing pains of British children living in India, adapted from Rumer Godden's novel. Directed by Jean Renoir (559140)

1.50 **Sky at Night**. Patrick Moore is joined by Dr Peter Cattermole (r) (s) (77693695)

2.10 **Holiday Outings**. Sue Cook sets out to travel the length of Switzerland by rail (r) (87050904)

2.25 **Marilyn Monroe: The Last Interview**. Two days before the screen legend was found dead, *Life* magazine journalist Richard Meryman conducted an interview with her. The meeting took place in an empty house (r). (Ceefax) (74672546)

2.50 **FILM: Black Narcissus** (1947) starring Deborah Kerr, David Farrar, Sabu and Jean Simmons. A group of nuns at a Himalayan outpost try to maintain a school and hospital despite formidable odds. Directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger. (Ceefax) (40192237)

4.30-6.15 **Saturday Week** begins with **Late Again**. Highlights of the week's editions of *The Late Show* (6770053) **5.15 TOTP2**. Includes a look back at 1975 with the Rubettes, the Bay City Rollers and Telly Savalas (s) (8030904) **6.00 What the Papers Say**. A review of the week's news (836512)

6.15 **World Indoor Athletics**. Helen Rollason and David Moorcroft introduce action from the championships in Barcelona (s) (4156966)

7.20 **Correspondent**. Aminatta Forna travels to West Africa to discover the truth about the Tuareg people of the Sahara. Plus a look at Austrian fears about entering the European Union. (Ceefax) (396237)

8.05 CHOICE **Bookmark: Rumer Godden — An Indian Affair.** (Ceefax) (s) (197169)

9.05 **The Buccaneers.** The last episode in the series following the lives and loves of a group of American girls. With Alison Elliott, Carla Gugino, Sheila Hancock and Dinsdale Landen (r). (Ceefax) (s) (866362)

10.05 **FILM: Born on the Fourth of July** (1989) starring Tom Cruise, Willem Dafoe and Bryan Larkin. Based on the true story of an all-American boy who returned from Vietnam paralysed and how he regained his purpose in life by campaigning against the war. Directed by Oliver Stone. (Ceefax) (s) (11418237)

12.25 **Later with Jools Holland**. Guests include Crowded House, the Cranberries, Aswad and the Auteurs (r) (s) (2019838)

1.25 **Chet Baker: The Last Days**. A celebration of the life of the jazz trumpeter. Including a reconstruction of Baker's last days before he fell from a hotel window in The Netherlands. Pianist Russ Freeman fondly remembers his good friend (s) (8360560). Ends at 2.30

LWT

6.00am **GMTV** (7760121)

9.25 **What's Up Doc?** presented by Andy Crane, Jenny Powell and Pat Sharp (s) (65727966)

11.30 **The Chart Show** featuring Bruce Springsteen in the Video Vault performing *Glory Days* (r) (s) (36508)

12.30 NEW **Speakeasy**. Emma Forbes and Dr Fintan Coyle return with the problem page for teenagers. This week they are joined by Norman Pace (s) (94492)

1.00 **ITN News** (Teletext) and weather (45949898) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (45948169)

1.10 **Champions League Special** (57933614)

1.40 **WCW Worldwide Wrestling** (3724782)

2.30 **Movies, Games and Videos**. Includes a review of Jodie Foster's new film *Nell* (898)

3.00 **FILM: Not Quite Human** (1987) starring Alan Thicke and Joseph Bologna. Disney tale about an inventor who develops an android teenager and decides to put his creation to the ultimate test by enrolling him in high school. Directed by Steven Hilliard Stern (25837343)

4.45 **ITN News** (Teletext), sport and weather (6138850)

5.05 **London Tonight** (Teletext) sport abd weather (7199817)

5.20 **Cartoon Time** (2300343)

5.25 **Golden Baywatch: Money, Honey**. Mitch is offered a starring role in a new film (r). (Teletext) (s) (8014966)

6.15 **You Bet**. Matthew Kelly invites the studio audience and celebrity guests to bet on the outcome of a variety of unlikely challenges. (Teletext) (s) (504091)

7.15 NEW **Beadle's About.** Jeremy Beadle returns to play more elaborate tricks on unsuspecting members of the public. (Teletext) (s) (633343)

7.45 **Family Fortunes** (Teletext) (s) (532614)

8.15 NEW **Caught On Camera**. Michael Aspel presents a collection of rescues and astonishing moments captured live on video. Tonight's footage includes a young boy trapped under the ice of a frozen river; and the bear who enjoys dips in a couple's jacuzzi. (Teletext) (s) (816188)

8.45 **ITN News** (Teletext), National Lottery update and weather (206879)

9.00 **FILM: Impulse** (1990) starring Theresa Russell and Jeff Fahey. An undercover Los Angeles vice cop cracks under the strain and becomes a high-class call girl. Directed by Sondra Locke. (Teletext) (s) (8614)

11.00 NEW **Tarbuck Late**. Jimmy Tarbuck returns with more late-night conversation (67985)

12.00 NEW **Live from the Lilydrome**. Lily Savage hosts her own show (64454)

1.00am **Tropical Heat** (2504299)

1.55 **The Big E**. Magazine for young Europeans (s) (9070947)

2.45 **American Gladiators** (s) (7493947)

3.35 **BPM** (s) (9746164)

4.35 **Sportsworld** (76625367)

5.00 **ITV Sport Classics** with Matthew Lorenzo (73102)

5.30 **ITN Morning News** (26580). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 **Sesame Street** (r) 69492) **7.00 Ovide** (r) (9830898) **7.15 The Adventures of Sonic the Hedgehog** (r) (5348459)

7.40 **First Edition**. News and current affairs presented by Jon Snow (s). (5249072)

8.00 **Transworld Sport** (61985)

9.00 **The Morning Line**. Racing (s). (20091)

10.00 **World Tennis**. Action from Rotterdam, the United States and Mexico City. (36527)

10.30 **Kabaddi**. The men's semi-final between Punjab and Tamil Nadu (r) (92546)

11.00 **Gazzetta Football Italia** (77362)

12.00 **High 5**. Extreme skiers Dominique Perret and Scott Schmidt (r). (63898)

12.30pm **The Great Maratha**. History from South Asia (in Urdu with subtitles). (25362)

1.00 **FILM: Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon** (1942, b/w). A spy thriller starring Basil Rathbone as Sherlock Holmes on the trail of Nazi agents who have kidnapped the inventor of a new bomb (Teletext). (5750546)

2.20 **Australian History**. Animation (39658343)

2.40 **Channel 4 Racing From Sandown Park**. Live coverage of the **2.55** Barclays Bank Handicap Hurdle; the **3.30** Burnt Oak & Special Cargo Novices' Chase; the **4.05** Sunderlands Imperial Cup Handicap Hurdle and the **4.40** HMS Sandown Handicap Chase. (60265362)

5.05 **Brookside Omnibus.** Eddie Banks is worried about his investment with George Manners and Jacqui loses patience with her lodger (r).(Teletext) (s). (6949850)

6.30 **Right to Reply**. Includes comment on *Pot Night* and *The Word*'s decision to send the runaway Peter Kerry to New York. (Teletext) (s). (121)

7.00 **Channel 4 News** (396411)

7.10 **A Week in Politics** with Vincent Hanna and Andrew Rawnsley. Includes an item on Labour's battle over Clause IV. Followed by **Weather**. (219614)

8.00 **To the Island of the Aye-Aye.** Made in 1991, this programme is shown as a tribute to Gerald Durrell and follows him and his wife Lee to Madagascar in search of a rare lemur. (3169)

9.00 CHOICE **Auf Wiedersehen, Pet: If I were a Carpenter** (Teletext) (6633)

10.00 CHOICE **The White Room** (s) (6307188)

11.00 CHOICE **Red Light Zone** (43454898)

11.05 **NYPD Nude.** The story of two New York policewomen who posed naked for magazines (s) (140508)

11.40 **The Peanut Club.** A documentary about a Los Angeles strip club (531091)

11.50 **White Jazz**. A dramatised documentary on American crime writer James Ellroy exploring the themes and stories behind his work (s) (899072)

12.55 **Blue**. Carpet factory boss Tom Cramer is addicted to pornography. Starring David Cronenberg. (3973589)

1.20am **ChickenRanch**. A look behind the scenes of a legalised brotherl in the Nevada Desert. Made by Nick Broomfield (r) (s) (7844812)

2.50 **The Word** (r) (s) (4221015)

هكذا من الاصل

SUNDAY MARCH 12

Make mine a double

WATCH out for a rare sight this afternoon — dour Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson (right) could break into an uncharacteristic smile at the end of his team's FA Cup sixth round tie against Queens Park Rangers (Sky Sports, midday). Although results in the competition often turn league form on their head, Premier League title chasers United are justifiable favourites to *retain the Cup they won last year* — and lowly Rangers will have a hard task stopping them.

United are also hot on the trail of a unique record — a double "double" — by winning the Cup and League in the same season for the second year running. But if they overcome Rangers, they'll have to take the winner of one of this weekend's other ties: Everton *v Newcastle, Crystal Palace v* Wolves, and Liverpool v Spurs.

[illegible]

6.00am Hour of Power (38560) **7.00** DJ's KTV (7148095) **7.05** Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors (6836980) **7.30** Dennis (2700473) **7.45** Superboy (55928) **8.15** Inspector Gadget (271980) **8.45** Super Mario Brothers (270251) **9.15** Bump in the Night (277164) **9.45** Highlander (209763) **10.15** Orson and Olivia (5773725) **11.00** Phantom 2040 (83218) **11.30** VR *Troopers* (84947) **12.00** World Wrestling Federation Challenge (60831) **1.00pm** Paradise Beach (84812) **1.30** Here's Boomer (57367) **2.00** Entertainment This Week (77034) **3.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (66763) **4.00** Coca-Cola Hit Mix (67270) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Action Zone (2305) **6.00** The Simpsons (65016) **7.00** Beverly Hills 90210 (39526) **8.00** Melrose Place (16034) **9.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (96270) **10.00** Renegade (58247) **11.00** Entertainment This Week (41819) **12.00** S.I.B.S (4095619) **12.40am** Top of the Heap (4934145) **1.00** Comic Strip Live (86918) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (1562972)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Sunrise (1502251) **9.30** Business Sunday (45522) **10.00** Sunday with Adam Boulton (91102) **11.00** Sky World News (74580) **11.30** The Book Show (90102) **12.30pm** Week in Review International (90386) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (91015) **2.30** CBS 48 Hours (46744) **3.30** Business Sunday (16812) **4.30** Week in Review International (6454) **5.00** Live at Five (18299) **6.30** Fashion TV (54763) **7.30** The Trial of O J. Simpson (42102) **8.30** The Book Show (27928) **9.30** Sky Worldwide Report (21763) **11.30** CBS Weekend News (43522) **12.30am** ABC World News Sunday (86936) **1.30** Business Sunday (5543706) **2.10** Sunday with *Adam Boulton* (7487348) **3.30** Week in Review — International (68226) **4.30** CBS Weekend News (11348) **5.30-6.00** ABC World News Sunday (83394)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am **Showcase** (11909) **8.00 Challenge to be Free** (1972): Two men find themselves on a perilous adventure across 1,000 miles of Arctic land (68386) **10.00 Born Yesterday** (1993): Millionaire John Goodman hires journalist Don Johnson to educate girlfriend Melanie Griffith in this comedy (52812) **12.00 Nurses on the Line** (1993) Harrowing Mexican jungle adventure with media Lindsay Wagner (58909) **2.00pm Straight Talk** (1992): A shrewd country girl is mistaken for a radio agony aunt. Comedy with Dolly Parton and James Woods (97909) **4.00 Girls Just Wanna Have Fun** (1985) Teenage comedy about three girls who take part in a televised music contest (4909) **6.00 Born Yesterday** (1993): As 10am (56283) **8.00 Close to Eden** (1992): A tough female cop investigates a murder and the theft of $750,000 in Brooklyn's Hasidic community. With Melanie Griffith (12218) **10.00 Hellraiser III: Hell on Earth** (1992): Evil menace Pinhead tricks a greedy nightclub owner into freeing him from his imprisoning pillar (949831) **11.35 The Movie Show** (707909) **12.05am Innocent Blood** (1992): A female vampire and a cop try to prevent a crime lord from transforming Pittsburgh into a haven for the undead (884394) **2.00 Night and the City** (1992): Robert De Niro is a down-and-out New York City lawyer up against boxing promoters (493348) **3.40-5.10 Fatal Friendship** (1992) Kevin Dobson begins to suspect that his best friend, Gerald McRaney, is a hired assassin (29120333)

[illegible]

4.00pm Modern Times (1936): Charlie Chaplin plays a rebellious factory worker (98300541) **5.50 Shenandoah** (1965): James Stewart plays the widower at the head of a household which is torn apart during the American Civil War (19352096) **7.50 To Kill a Mockingbird** (1962): A lawyer in the Deep South is charged with defending a black man who has been accused of rape (98185893) **10.00-12.00 Closely Observed Trains** (1966) Jiri Menzel's comedy about a sexually inexperienced train dispatcher in the Second World War (61034)

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6.00am The Solid Gold Cadillac (1956): Comedy about a small shareholder causing chaos at a corrupt corporation (50021) **8.00 Just for You** (1952). Musical with Bing Crosby as a songwriter waylaid by his troublesome family (27891909) **9.50 Let's Make Love** (1960): Cole Porter musical comedy about a millionaire who objects to a musical which satirises him With Marilyn Monroe (48397473) **12.00 Spiderman Strikes Back** (1978): Spiderman tries to save the country from a maniac with a nuclear bomb (49251) **2.00pm Danny the Champion of the World** (1991): Jeremy Irons and his son Samuel battle evil landlord Robbie Coltrane in Roald Dahl's classic adventure story (68251) **4.00 Breathing Lessons** (1993): Tender drama about an ageing couple. Joanne Woodward and James Garner, *en route* to a friend's funeral (5261) **6.00 Huck and the King of Hearts** (1993). A young boy sets off across America to track down his grandfather (56265) **8.00 In the Line of Fire** (1993): Ageing Secret Service agent Clint Eastwood struggles to protect the president from a crazed assassin, John Malkovich (98270676) **10.10 29th Street** (1991): Comedy starring Anthony LaPaglia as Frank Pesce, a man cursed with good luck (673386) **11.55 Love Crimes** (1992): Erotic thriller in which Sean Young plays an assistant DA who gets caught up with the con man and porn photographer Patrick Bergin (234831) **1.30am Ghost Story** (1981): Disturbing horror film about four old men who exchange ghost stories (49597) **3.30-5.00 Daughters of Satan** (1972): Tom Selleck plays a man drawn to a painting of three witches being burnt alive (677597)

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7.00am Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (25183) **9.00** Ringside Special: Riddick Bowe v Herbie Hide (97812) **11.00** Goals on Sunday (24464) **12.00** F.A. Cup Sixth Round Special — Manchester Utd v Queens Park Rangers Live (534034) **3.00pm** One to One (4541) **3.30** Reno Air Race (61386) **4.30** US Grand Prix Athletics (26928) **5.30** F.A. Cup Sixth Round Special: quarter-finals (78367) **7.30** One to One (3541) **8.00** ATP Tennis — Live (63638) **9.30** Ringside Special: Herbie Hide v Riddick Bowe (61305) **11.30** F.A. Cup Sixth Round Special (98454) **1.30-2.00am** One to One (15145)

[illegible]

7.00am Soccer Extra (1417183) **11.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA (9544270) **1.00pm** World Police And Fire Games (4417251) **3.00** Cricket Special: *Shell Sandals one-day final* (4283893) **8.00** *NBA* Basketball — Live (5071589) **7.30** Adrenaline Adventures (4904299) **9.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA (1991299) **11.00** National Trails (4800763) **11.30-12.00** World of Speed and Beauty (4425270)

[illegible]

7.30am Nordic Skiing (19386) **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing (812164) **11.00** Alpine Skiing (558454) **1.30pm** Figure Skating (75102) **2.00** Live Figure Skating (531812) **5.00** Live Athletics (8918724) **9.00** Nordic Skiing (43102) **10.00** Golf (80893) **11.30-12.30am** Boxing (14034)

[illegible]

9.00am Campaigns in History (3651909) **10.00** The Living Body (2176270) **10.30** The Dirt Detective (2133980) **11.00** Guitar for Beginners (3963116) **11.30** Go Fishing (2513675) **12.00** Furniture to Go (2157560) **12.30pm** Campaigns in History (1455589) **1.30** The Living Body (6365299) **2.00** The Dirt Detective (2246589) **2.30** Guitar for Beginners (1292367) **3.00** Go Fishing (2225096) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (1297812)

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7.00am Lassie (8714893) **7.30** Jossy's Giants (5733928) **8.00** Paul Temple (6906638) **9.00** Big Deal (3653367) **10.00** The Pink Panther Show (4574763) **10.20** Dr Who Omnibus (55575015) **11.45** Blake's Seven (4367676) **12.45pm** FILM: The Ipcress File (1965): Enigmatic agent Harry Palmer investigates the brain drain of British scientists. Stars Michael Caine (58544657) **2.40** The Bill Omnibus (73747096) **5.00** All Creatures Great and Small (2241034) **6.00** Going Straight (1295454) **6.30** Fresh Fields (7737454) **7.05** Triangle (5704003) **7.35** The Dick Emery Show (3248947) **8.00** Colditz (9924812) **9.00** Minder (9944676) **10.00** Miami Vice (9947763) **11.00** Fox (8723541) **12.00** Rockliffe's Babies (6985145) **1.00am** Warship (6116936) **2.00-3.00** Shopping at Night (5695023)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (14386) **7.00** Around the World with Willy Fogg (92675) **7.30** Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show (71183) **8.00** Garfield and Friends (82928) **8.30** Dungeons and Dragons (81299) **9.00** Prince Valiant (55251) **9.30** Flash Gordon (10299) **10.00** Runaway Bay (63676) **10.30** Beakman's World (94763) **11.00** Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (30164) **11.30** The New Adventures of Gigantor (31893) **12.00** The New Adventures of He-Man (65015) **12.30pm** The Bots Master (14015) **1.00** Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (91947) **1.30** Esk the Cat (13386) **2.00** Pugwall's Summer (6164) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (6034) **3.00** Degrassi Junior High (6299) **3.30** Ready or Not (8251) **4.00-5.00** California Dreams (54744)

NICKELODEON

7.00am The Muppet Show (27541) **7.30** Miss Piggy goes to Hollywood (46676) **8.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (57218) **8.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (56589) **9.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (30541) **9.30** Turtles Gold (85589) **10.00** Grimmy (18305) **10.30** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (36725) **11.00** Doug (27676) **11.30** Rugrats (28305) **12.00** *AAAH! Real Monsters (50305)* **12.30pm** *Ren and* Stimpy (89305) **1.00** Clarissa Explains It All (26812) **1.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (88676) **2.00** The Adventures of Pete and Pete (3676) **2.30** You Choose (9378) **3.00** Turtles Gold (2183) **3.30** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (5763) **4.00** School of the Week (4270) **4.30** Rugrats (9134) **5.00** Doug (4928) **5.30** Ren and Stimpy (4034) **6.00** Nickalive! (1947) **6.30-7.00** Roundhouse (2299)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Reaching for the Skies (5983396) **5.00** Nature Watch (2220541) **5.30** An African Ride (1296183) **6.00** Theme Park Heaven (5374947) **7.00** Jurassica (2240305) **7.30** History's Mysteries (1206560) **8.00** Bush Tucker Man (2226725) **8.30** Voyager — The World of National Geographic (2238560) **9.00** Discovery Journal (9942218) **10.00** Shipwrecks — A Natural History (2165589) **10.30** World of Adventures (2141909) **11.00-12.00** Beyond 2000 (6721183)

BRAVO

12.00 Cannon (5372589) **1.00pm** The Wild Wild West (5368909) **2.00** The New Avengers (2171725) **3.00** Get Smart (2212822) **3.30** Car 54, Where are You? (1291638) **4.00.** FILM: Contraband Spain (1955): An FBI man tries to capture the gang of smugglers which his brother once belonged to (6105812) **5.30** Drama Classics (1290909) **6.00** FILM: Dr Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine (1965). A mad scientist creates beautiful female robots to seduce powerful men and help him to conquer the world (9918251) **8.00** FILM: Night of the Eagle (1962): A professor is shocked to discover that the *secret of his success lies in his wife's voodoo skills* (9920096) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Theatre of Death (1965): When the bodies of girls, each bearing the marks of a vampire, are discovered by the police, a surgeon grows suspicious of the Theatre of Death (5763196)

[illegible]

6.00am Best of Agony Hour (6122928) **7.00** Living Magazine Highlights (7135270) **9.00** Bazaar (9081580) **9.30** All Well and Good (8427183) **10.00** Best of Anna and Nick (79987522) **12.05pm** Best of Kilroy (4411928) **1.00** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7146657) **1.30** Now You See It (84882657) **1.55** *John Tovey's Entertaining on a Plate* (3160305) **2.30** The Ornamental Kitchen Garden (9346831) **3.00** FILM: Storm and Sorrow: A respected mountaineer prepares to climb a treacherous mountain in the former Soviet Union (27718473) **4.50** Sneak Scenes — Trapped in Paradise (23976299) **5.00** Come Dancing (6290183) **6.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (9357947) **6.00** The Visit (8446218) **7.00** Infatuation UK (6210947) **7.30** Brookside Omnibus (6562386) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (9876270) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (9886657) **11.00-12.00** Love Life (7165034)

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5.00pm The Big Dish (7724) **5.30** Blade Warriors (48299) **6.30** The Wonder Years (8015) **7.00** The Darling Buds of May (61522) **8.00** Perfect Scoundrels (70270) **9.00** Sirens (90034) **10.00** FILM: The Time Machine (1960). A Victorian scientist embarks upon an odyssey through the fourth dimension (665034) **11.50** Bordertown (208760) **12.20am** All Together Now (1613394) **12.50** The Wonder Years (5152394) **1.20** Trivial Pursuit (6935771) **1.50** FILM: The Time Machine (1960): As 10pm (160752) **3.40** Bordertown (88130477) **4.10-5.00** All Together Now (4691023)

[illegible]

7.00am Carnival Weekend (468367) **9.30** MTV News Weekend Edition (12657) **10.00** The Big Picture (65034) **10.30** European Top 20 Countdown (37218) **12.30pm** First Look (16473) **1.00** Sports (93306) **1.30** Carnival Weekend (984376) **4.30** The Pulse (5928) **5.00** The Real World 3 *(2102) 5.30 News (9980) 6.00 Us Top 20 Video* Countdown (68299) **9.00** 120 Minutes (83744) **10.00** Beavis and Butt-Head (88102) **10.30** Headbangers Ball (854960) **1.00am** VJ Hugo (70145) **2.00-7.00** Night Videos (9431313)

[illegible]

7.00am Breakfast in Bed (6011812) **9.30** Sunday Brunch (3754522) **12.00** Ten of the Best (1578299) **1.00pm** Into the Music (6787378) **3.30** Jonathan Ross presents (4997909) **4.00** The Best of ... The Bridge (4876164) **5.00** Prime Cuts (7148473) **6.00** Around and Around (1567183) **7.00** VH-1 Album Chart (9860812) **9.00** Rock Stories: the animals *(6877744) 10.00 VH-1 Country — Are You Sure* Hank Done It This Way? (5870831) **11.00** Night Music (9888096) **12.00-7.00** The Green Machine (7826313)

[illegible]

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including at noon The Signature Series **12.00-2.30pm** Top 12 Countdown **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

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7.00am Jagran (66361096) **7.30** Shabad (66373831) **8.00** Muthi Bhar Sitare (75800367) **8.30** Udan Choo (75809638) **9.00** Spectrum Sports (75823218) **9.30** Var Var Parivar (61749812) **10.00** Fasale (66379015) **11.00** Khirkiyan (34313096) **11.30** Aap Ki Adalat (34314725) **12.00** Song Tere Naam Se (75803454) **12.30pm** Krishna (61750928) **1.00** Movie (28095386) **4.00** Bansgi Apni Bast (78657367) **4.30** Dekh Bhai Dekh (78646251) **5.00** Baap Re Baap (92300947) **5.30** India Show (78660831) **6.00** Farmaish (78667744) **6.30** Khubsoorat (78658096) **7.00** Chakravyuha (92380183) **7.30** Top Ten (65223763) **8.30** Tara (92385638) **9.00-12.00** FILM (35589976)

CARTOON NETWORK

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm Kismet (1944): A beggar musician tries to marry off his daughter to royalty in old Baghdad. With Ronald Colman (16650305)

Theme: Arabian Nights

9.00 Captain Sindbad (1963): Our hero battles for the evil El Karim (76177270) **11.00 Kismet** (1955) As 7pm (13580693) **1.00am Kiss the Other Sheik** (1965): A man tries to give his wife away to a Moroccan sultan in this Italian comedy. With Marcello Mastroianni (54949431) **2.40-5.00 Captain Sindbad** (1963): As 9pm (90268023)

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CNN provides 24—hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm Food Guide (2007763) **12.55-1.00** Anglia News and Weather (15923183) **2.00-2.30** Kick-Off! (8560) **4.40** Weekend Plus (9921541) **5.10** Animal Country (6152270) **5.40-6.00** Anglia News on Sunday: Weather Week (571763) **11.15** Street Legal (225096) **12.15am** Prudential Awards for the Arts 1994 (50690) **12.45** Whisperkill (304348) **2.25** The Album Show (6801348) **3.25** Hollywood Report (68188503) **3.55** The Chart Show (8000400) **4.50** Get Stuffed (34474226) **5.00-5.30** Eye TV (68416)

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm *Gardeners' Diary* (2007763) **12.55-1.00** Border News and Weather (15923183) **2.00** Conference Report (8560) **2.30** Diamonds Are Forever (54710102) **4.40** Pop Profile (3616819) **4.50** Cartoon (1711283) **5.00-5.55** Coronation Street (8080183)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm Central Newsweek (2007763) **12.55-1.00** Central News and Weather (15923183) **2.00** It's Your Shout (2956873) **2.35** Diamonds Are Forever (97105015) **4.40** Heartland (9921541) **5.10** Knight Rider (8005831) **5.55-6.00** Central News and Weather (769560) **11.50** When Time Ran Out (417396) **1.50am** Cue the Music (1209232) **2.55** Hollywood Report (9841139) **3.25** Late Night Romantics (9643023) **4.00** Jobfinder (5057668) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7189752)

GRANADA

As London except: 10.15 Link (1827473) **10.30** A Meditation (72305) **11.30** Sunday Brunch (8244909) **12.25pm-1.00** God's Messengers (8294096) **2.00** Disney's The Love Bug (6676) **4.00** Chasing Dreams (68835725) **5.45** Cartoon (835473) **5.55-6.00** Granada News (759560) **6.05-7.00** Coronation Street (102454) **11.15** Wanted Dead or Alive (609725) **11.50** When Time Ran Out (417396) **1.50am** Cue the Music (1209232) **2.55** Hollywood Report (9841139) **3.25** Late Night Romantics (9643023) **4.00-5.30** The Pleasure Girls (48400)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.25pm Meredith on Sunday (1434725) **2.00** Getaways (8560) **2.30-3.10** The West Match (5846102) **5.25** Animal Country *(8999638) 11.15 Married with Children (609725)* **11.50** When Time Ran Out (417396) **1.50am** Cue the Music (1209232) **2.55** Hollywood Report (9841139) **3.25** Late Night Romantics (9643023) **4.00-5.30** The Pleasure Girls (48400)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 12.25pm Face to Faith (1434725) **2.00** Welsh Agenda (8560) **2.30-3.10** Soccer Sunday (5846102) **5.25-5.55** Welsh & Wealthy (6999638)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30 Seven Days (1627270) **12.50-1.00** Meridian News and Weather (24235454) **2.00** The Pier (74624909) **2.25-2.30** The Listings (65626676) **4.40** Universal Studio Tour (7944638) **5.15** Warner Cartoon (6967218) **5.55-6.00** Meridian News and Weather (759560) **11.15** The Pier (267812) **11.45** Prudential Awards for the Arts 1994 (266183) **12.15am** Serve You Right (50690) **12.45** Whisperkill (304348) **2.25** The Album Show (6801348) **3.25** Hollywood Report *(68188503) 3.55 The Chart Show (8000400)* **4.50** Get Stuffed (34474226) **5.00-5.30** Eye TV (68416)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.25pm Newsweek (1434725) **12.55-1.00** Tyne Tees News Headlines (15923183) **2.00** Highway to Heaven (4568831) **2.55** Cartoon (3929198) **3.15** Diamonds Are Forever (95937218) **5.30-6.00** Tyne Tees Weekend (102) **11.15** Car of the Year 95 (267812) **11.45** Quiz Night (266183) **12.15am** The Beat (624232) **1.15** Zara Dhyan Dein (1715619) **1.20** Betaaj Badshah (11592955) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (64416)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30pm *Westcountry* Update (2007763) **12.55-1.00** Westcountry News (15923183) **2.00** Wild West Country (8560) **2.30-2.40** Westcountry Cameos (8248909) **4.55** Getaways (8927725) **5.25** Car of the Year 95 (8999638) **5.55-6.00** Westcountry News (759560) **10.00-10.15** ITN News: Weekend Weather (790183) **11.20** Love at First Sight (110299) **11.50** When Time Ran Out (417396) **1.50am** Cue the Music (1209232) **2.55** Hollywood Report (9841139) **3.25** Late Night Romantics (9643023) **4.00-5.30** The Pleasure Girls (48400)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.25pm Kickabout (1443473) **12.50-1.00** *Calendar News* (24235454) **2.00** Highway to Heaven (4568831) **2.55** Cartoon (3929198) **3.15** Diamonds Are Forever (95937218) **5.30-6.00** Calendar (102) **11.15** Car of the Year 95 (267812) **11.45** Quiz Night (266183) **12.15am** The Beat (624232) **1.15** Zara Dhyan Dein (1715619) **1.20** Betaaj Badshah (11592955) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (64416)

S4C

Starts: 7.15 Chigley (1703725) **7.30** Madeline (5987386) **7.55** Hullaballoo (6211299) **8.15** Inspector Gadget (1404164) **8.40** Wise Up (2590725) **9.05** The Pink Panther Show (3169251) **9.30** Rawhide (8990893) **10.25** Party Of Five *(3475725) 11.20 Babylon 5 (8614015) 12.15pm* Little House On The Prairie (994589) **1.15** Boy Meets World (918909) **1.45** Football Italia (52221657) **4.00** To The Island Of The Aye-aye (7299) **5.00** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol (7454) **5.30** Pobol Y Cwm (20037812) **7.25** Penwythnos Mawr (782270) **8.15** I' R Byw Arian (289034) **8.45** Newyddion (861725) **8.50** Glan Hafren (538541) **9.50** Saith Ar Y Sul (196183) **10.05** San Steffan (432657) **10.25** Children Of A Lesser God (78698015) **12.40am** Tommy Davidson Illin' In Philly (6573481)

TUESDAY MARCH 14

CHOICE: Glimpses of Belfast and Bombay life

Pictures, still and motion, in progress

The Belfast-based Pacemaker press agency makes its living by supplying newspapers around the world with photographic images from Northern Ireland. For 25 years up to the IRA ceasefire, these were usually pictures of conflict. *Time and again the* cameramen performed the same ritual, rushing to the scene of the latest atrocity, calling on relatives for a photograph of the victim and then covering the funeral. Made over the past year, **Network First: Troubleshooters** (ITV, 10.40pm) is a revealing glimpse of the press photographer's job in difficult, dangerous and emotionally taxing circumstances.

Such is the huge output of the Indian cinema industry that actors can find themselves playing parts in several films simultaneously, even on the same day. *Best known* to British audiences for *The Buddha of Suburbia*, Harish Patel is a chubby, jovial character player who specialises in comic villains. A jaunty film, **Omnibus: Ready When You Are, Mr Patel** (BBC 1, 10.25pm: Scotland, Sunday) follows him through a busy day's schedule as he goes from one film set to the next, changing costumes and characters and trying to remember his lines. Although getting held up in Bombay's traffic is a hazard of the job, Patel never lets his employers *down*.

The Knowledge (BBC 2, 7.30pm) reports on a bold experiment for helping children excluded from *school for disruption or truancy. It* is train them to be entrepreneurs. On Saturday mornings, at Portobello Market in west London, these 15- and 16-year-olds join the regular street traders. Each group is given £50 to buy merchandise. They are allowed to keep the profits but encouraged to reinvest it in more stock. The children are given three guiding principles: buy low, *sell high and keep records. They are* encouraged to study other self-made business people, from Henry Ford to Alan Sugar. The idea was pioneered in the New York Bronx by a victim of teenage muggers, who was stung by the attack to offer youngsters something positive.

Establishing local colour is fine but there are times in **Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India** (BBC 2, 8.30pm) when you wonder whether Jaffrey will ever make it to the stove. Working her way up with the *western coast, she reaches Gujarat*. The programme is notable for being entirely meatless. Indeed followers the Jain religion go ever further than most vegetarians by eschewing root crops such as garlic and onions. Digging, they argue, destroys life. Even so Jaffrey manages to demonstrate a tasty-looking pasta, made from chick-pea flour and yoghurt, and a couple of *enticing desserts*.

PETER WAYMARK

Harish Patel, a busy actor in Bombay (BBC 1, 10.25pm)

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (38714)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95199530)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk presides over a studio audience as they discuss a topic of particular interest to them (s) (5240801)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7635882) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Teletext) (8642085)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (7994849)

12.00 **News** *(Ceefax)*, regional news and weather (1493240) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford (s) (7269153) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15809559)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (19530)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (77546733) **1.50 Going for Gold**. Henry Kelly asks the general knowledge questions (s) (77557849)

2.15 FILM: Perry Mason — The Case of the All-Star Assassin (1989) starring Raymond Burr and Barbara Hale. The legal eagle defends a professional hockey star accused of murdering his boss. Directed by Christian I. Nyby II. (Ceefax) (253172)

3.50 Jackanory. Part one of *Dimanche Diller* by Henrietta Branford (s) (8826827) **4.00 Willy Fogg** (Ceefax) (9053424) **4.25 Grimmy** (4207608) **4.35 Incredible Games** (Ceefax) (s) (1538443)

5.00 Newsround (6808511) **5.10 Maid Marian and Her Merry Men** starring Kate Lonergan and Tony Robinson (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8889207)

5.35 Neighbours (r). *(Ceefax)* (s) (237240) **Northern Ireland**: Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (795)

6.30 Regional news magazines (375) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Holiday. Jill Dando visits Majorca; Sankha Guha investigates tourism in South Africa; Monty Don goes on a botanical trip to Corsica; and Carol Smillie samples the delights of Skegness. (Ceefax) (s) (6998)

7.30 EastEnders. Blossom gives Alan a piece of her mind. (Ceefax) (s) (559)

8.00 Sportsnight Special. Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage of the European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final second-leg tie between Chelsea and FC Bruges from *Stamford Bridge. With commentary from Barry* Davies and Trevor Brooking (s) (85143882) NB: Subsequent programmes may run late

9.55 Main News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (402714)

10.25 CHOICE **Omnibus: Ready When You Are, Mr Patel**. (Ceefax) (s) (619240) **Northern Ireland:** Home Truths 11.05 Omnibus 12.00-1.35am Attack on Terror; **Wales:** 10.25 Week In Week Out (115801) 10.55 Omnibus (348375) 11.45-1.20 FILM: Roe vs Wade (350801)

11.15 FILM: Roe vs Wade (1989) starring Holly Hunter, Amy Madigan and Kathy Bates. Drama based on the true story of the battle to legalise abortion in the state of Texas fought by two women, an ambitious young lawyer and her client, a pregnant woman without the means to keep a child. Directed by Gregory Hoblit. (Ceefax) (779627)

12.50am Weather (1698486)

BBC2

6.20am Open University: Maths (7116578) **6.45** Art in 15th-Century Italy (2962462) **7.10** Working with Systems (5252608) **7.35** The Emergence of Greek Mathematics (5855733)

8.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (6529443)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Sir Bernard Ingham (4017066)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Standard Grade Geography (3046356) **9.25** Around Scotland (5391795) **9.45** You and Me (5473269) **10.00** Playdays (8653191) **10.25** English Express (1781627) **10.45** The Experimenter (4907882) **11.05** Space Ark — Changes in Material (6770882) **11.15** Music Makers (6726820) **11.35** Seeing Through Science (9146733) **12.00** See Hear! (34714) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (83578) **1.00** Teaching Today (17172) **1.30** Q and A (25113424) **1.40 You and Me** (66389066) **1.45** Numbers Plus (25132559) **2.00** Gordon T Gopher (87978356)

2.10 Horizon: The Betrayers (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3921820)

3.00 News (Ceefax), weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (4135375) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), weather, regional news and weather (8824269)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz *presented by Martyn Lewis (s)* (288)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Top chefs create new dishes with previously unseen ingredients (s) (172)

5.00 Esther. Esther Rantzen and her studio audience meet people with unique stories to tell (s) (7004)

5.30 Catchword (s) (424)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (s) (793462)

6.25 Heartbreak High. The trials and tribulations of the pupils of an Australian inner-city high school. (Ceefax) (s) (997153)

7.10 The Tick (s) (344530)

7.30 CHOICE **The Knowledge: Street Smart MBA**. (Ceefax) (s) (801)

8.00 Public Eye: Heritage Police Sue Pennington investigates whether local authorities are abusing planning controls in the name of conservation. (Ceefax) (3288)

8.30 CHOICE **Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India** (Ceefax) (s) (2795)

9.00 Murder Most Horrid II: We All Hate Granny starring Dawn French and James Fleet. A family are in dire need of granny's inheritance, however the old lady proves more durable than expected (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6733)

9.30 Cardiac Arrest (r). (Ceefax) (s) (63714)

10.00 ***The Labours of Eve: Helen's Story***. Nicky Singer talks to Helen Pusey who who faced the dilemma of having two of her four embryos terminated or risk her own life. (Ceefax) (s) (35443)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (313714)

11.15 The Late Show (s)(291288)

11.55 Weather (633530)

12.00 Open Mind: Beautiful Dreamers (4326689)

12.25am Introduction to Computer Aided Design (2940554)

1.25 The Record (s) (4577592). Ends at 1.50

2.00-3.40 Night School: Modern Languages (597196)

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7608337)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3043269) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8630240)

10.00 The Time ... the Place John Stapleton presides over a studio audience as the discuss a topical issue (s) (7765820)

10.35 This Morning. Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan present the weekday family magazine (26322191) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1499424)

12.30 ***ITN Lunchtime News*** *(Teletext)* and weather (2978207)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2953998) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57860714)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz talks to people who have had disastrous dates. (Teletext) (s) (35730207) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74507288)

2.50 Blue Heelers (7018462) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6847801) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6846172)

3.30 ***The Magic House*** *(s)* (2911191) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (8815511) **3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being** (r) (s) (8811795) **4.00 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (8933511) **4.15 Dreamstone** (Teletext) (s) (6268998) **4.40 Chris Cross** (Teletext) (s) (9892085)

5.10 ***After 5 with Caron Keating*** *(Teletext)* (6023714)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (501462)

5.55 Your Shout (433578)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (191)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (443)

7.00 Emmerdale. The villagers unite to search for Robert. (Teletext) (1066)

7.30 Saint and Greavsie's World of Sport. Classic sporting moments from the early 1970s. Includes some vintage repartee from th boxer that "stung like a bee" (s) (627)

8.00 The Bill: Count to Ten. June Ackland is accused of perverting the course of justice. (Teletext) (8694)

8.30 September Song. Ted and Vicky anxiously await news of Billy. (Teletext) (s) (9849)

9.00 Peak Practice: Fighting Chance. A boxing champion suffers a series of blackouts; meanwhile, in Africa, Jack makes an important decision. (Teletext) (s) (9795)

10.00 ***News at Ten*** *(Teletext) and weather (38269)*

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (131199)

10.40 CHOICE **Network First: Troubleshooters**. (Teletext) (734220)

11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (372627)

12.40am FILM: The Imposter (1984). A high school headmaster, who has conned his way into the position, battles to stop a drug supply line being run by a teacher. Directed by Michael Pressman (138757)

2.25 The Little Picture Show (5898467)

3.20 America's Top Ten (s) (68036196)

3.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (23919)

4.15 On the Live Side (s) (13268467)

4.30 Videofashion. Includes the goings on behind *the scene at Lolita Lempicka's show (46738)*

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (26486)

5.30 ITN Morning News (61912). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2973578)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (18563)

9.00 The Morning Line: The Cheltenham Festival. Previewing the day's jump race meeting The regular panel is joined by Irish commentator Ted Walsh (s) (49646)

9.30 Schools. Eureka! (5463882) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (5468337) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7642172) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (1797288) **10.25** Time Capsule (1776795) **10.45** Coming *Together (4713356)* **11.00** *Science in Focus* (6979789) **11.22** Stage One (6337795) **11.38** Schools at Work (5925337) **11.45** First Edition (s) (4969462)

12.00 House to House. Maya Even discusses politics. (29882)

12.30pm Sesame Street. *Lou Diamond Phillips is* the guest. (98153)

1.30 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **2.15**, **2.50**, **3.30** and **4.05** races (s) (378153)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (240)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Kings of their Castles. Husbands who would like to turn the clock back. (Teletext) (s) (8968917)

5.50 Terrytoons. Vintage animation. (416801)

6.00 Babylon 5: A Spider in the Web. A killer stalks Talia. (Teletext) (s) (483375)

6.55 Terrytoons. Deputy Dawg. (751202)

7.00 Channel 4 News. Followed by Weather. (Teletext) (768998)

7.50 ***The Slot****. Viewers' opinions. (306530)*

8.00 Classic Motorcycles: Scootermania. Following the 1950s obsession with Vespas and Lambrettas, until the Mini took over. Narrated by Timothy Spall. (Teletext) (r) (s) (8356)

8.30 Brookside. Emma puts Barry's commitment to the test. (Teletext) (s) (3761)

9.00 Without Walls: Auto Erotic. Continuing the look at car design in the Nineties. (Teletext) (s) (1801)

9.30 Without Walls: Dead West — The War on the American Desert. The nuclear devastation of the Nevada desert is explored by photographer Richard Misrach, who penetrated some of the Pentagon's best kept secrets and brough back the evidence. (Teletext) (s) (58882)

10.00 FILM: Closing Numbers (1993) starring Jane Asher and Tim Woodward. Anna knows her husband is having an affair but is shocked when she meets his lover. Directed by Stephen Whittaker. (Teletext) (s) (431795)

11.55 ***Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham*** **Festival**. Highlights from all six of today's races and analysis of the day's events (s) (488004)

12.25am Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Highlights of the Napoli v Lazio match. *(2966950)*

1.25 Blood Sweat and Glory. The narrowing gap between men and women in sport (r) (s) (7836931)

2.00 FILM: His Lordship (1936, b/w). Comedy melodrama starring George Arliss as a dashing adventurer and his pompous twin brother. Directed by Herbert Mason. Ends at **3.15**. (1709486)

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TUESDAY MARCH 14

Love's perfect match

WE'VE all been there, the awkward adolescent stumblings involved in meeting someone we really fancy. And those moments have been perfectly captured in Bill Forsythe's now classic 1982 comedy **Gregory's Girl** (Bravo, 9.30pm).

John Gordon Sinclair stars as the lunky, lovelorn 15-year-old Scottish schoolboy, Gregory, who becomes hopelessly infatuated with Dorothy (Dee Hepburn), the school girl who excels on the football field. This quirky, whimsical film won a BAFTA award for its script, and Forsythe has never really bettered it, although 1983's *Local Hero* repeated *Gregory*'s wry, offbeat humour.

Watch out for excellent performances from Clare Grogan and especially Allison Forster, as Gregory's precocious ten-year-old sister. A great result.

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (73559) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (86191) **8.30** Blockbusters (65462) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (19191) **10.00** Concentration (32317) **10.30** Card Sharks (72998) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (59172) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (96578) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (53694) **1.00** St Elsewhere (58129) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (33646) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (6152191) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4077559) **3.55** Wild West Cowboys (9634849) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (8004) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1085) **6.00** Murphy Brown (6269) **6.30** Family Ties (9379) **7.00** Rescue (2714) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9733) **8.00** The X-Files (30424) **9.00** Models Inc (50288) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (53375) **11.00** Late Show (578714) **11.50** Littlejohn (253153) **12.40am** Chances (3328080) **1.30** WKRP in Cincinnati (38347) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (4118496)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (1473795) **9.30** Fashion TV (76004) **10.30** ABC Nightline (63240) **11.00** News and Business (685530) **1.30pm** CBS News This Morning (39085) **2.30** Parliament Live (65511) **4.00** News and Business (38578) **5.00** Live at Five (6318085) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (19379066) **8.00** News and Business (65882) **9.30** O.J. Simpson Trial (303424) **12.30am** CBS News (9725660) **1.10** Entertainment This Week (9452202) **2.30** Parliament Replay (60825) **4.30** CBS News (31776) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (77252)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1323795) **10.00 Digger** (1993) Two troubled youngsters befriend each other. With Olympia Dukakis and Leslie Nielsen (53830) **12.00 The Gumball Rally** (1976). Comedy in which Michael Sarrazin races cross-country against Gary Busey and Raul Julia (47849) **2.00pm Are You Being Served?** (1977). Spin off from the television comedy series about the staff of Grace Brothers (44627) **4.00 City Boy** (1992) Wilderness adventure with Christian Campbell and James Brolin (84899462) **5.55 Digger** (1993): As 10am (27324646) **7.30 Close-Up: Sharon Stone on Silver** (4801) **8.00 Indecent Proposal** (1993): Robert Redford propositions Demi Moore. With Woody Harrelson (36608) **10.00 SIS Extreme Justice** (1993): A Los Angeles police officer joins a specialist unit but sets out to expose the unit's shoot-to-kill policy. With Lou Diamond Phillips and Scott Glenn (339998) **11.40 Death Wish V — The Face of Death** (1993) Ageing vigilante Charles Bronson returns to settle old scores (962424) **1.15am The Inner Circle** (1991) Tom Hulce plays Stalin's projectionist in Soviet saga (42293912) **3.30-6.00 A Private Matter** (1993): Pregnant mother Sissy Spacek fights the pharmaceutical giant producing the drug Thalidomide (417115)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Sabata (1970): Spaghetti western with Lee Van Cleef (20065) **8.00 A Man for All Seasons** (1966): Fred Zinnemann's Oscar-winning version of Robert Bolt's compelling stage play about Sir Thomas More. Stars Paul Scofield (25530) **10.00-12.00 Compulsion** (1959) Thriller about law students Leopold and Loeb, who murdered a young boy in the 1920s to prove their higher intelligence (85424)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Seconds (1966) Fantasy comedy-drama with Rock Hudson (66259) **8.00 Black Island** (1979): Children's adventure (10085) **9.00 Goldilocks and the Three Bears:** Cartoon (87171) **10.00 Captain January** (1936). Shirley Temple resists separation from her lighthouse keeper father (5532882) **11.20 Tom Sawyer** (1986) Animation (7008820) **12.15pm Of Mice and Men** (1992) Low-key adaptation of John Steinbeck's play with John Malkovich and Gary Sinise (842820) **2.05 Detective Story** (1951). Kirk Douglas stars as a short-tempered New York detective (452356) **4.00 Black Island** (1979). As 8am (7532820) **5.05 Goldilocks and the Three Bears** As 9am (1039443) **6.00 Of Mice and Men** (1992) As 12.15pm (65733) **8.00 Lorenzo's Oil** (1992). Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon as the parents who re-wrote medical history in their battle to save their son from a terminal illness (61952207) **10.15 Thunderheart** (1992). Val Kilmer as an FBI agent on a murder investigation (458375) **12.15am Chrome Soldiers** (1992): Action drama with Gary Busey and Ray Sharkey among five Vietnam veterans biking into a small town to track down a murderer (837496) **1.50 South Central LA** (1992): Brutal gang drama in which a father tries to prevent his son falling foul of the law (629931) **3.30-5.10 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday** (1985) A woman is held hostage by her husband's killer (416757)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4782511) **7.15** WWF Mania (474733) **8.15** Soccer News (2705240) **8.30** NBA Action (90153) **9.00** Snowboard Tour (94795) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (62207) **10.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA (32443) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (14559) **12.30pm** Tartan Extra (23801) **2.30** ATP Tennis Final (45199) **4.30** Stunt Team Championships (2288) **5.00** WWF Superstars (7561) **6.00** Soccer News (215269) **6.15** Fish Tales (203424) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (7733) **7.00** Snooker: Kloster Open (65511) **9.00** The Footballers' Football Show (89714) **10.00** Soccer News (654375) **10.15** Fish Tales (642530) **10.30** ATP Tennis (60266) **12.30am** Grass Roots Rugby (21844) **1.00-2.00** The Footballers' Football Show (67467)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogolf Magazine (66004) **8.30** Athletics (38559) **10.30** Nordic Skiing (98066) **12.00** Football (26917) **1.30pm** Speedworld (19801) **3.30** Nordic Skiing (79812) **4.30** Football (60172) **5.30** Eurotennis (40882) **6.30** News (2801) **7.00** Live Nordic Skiing (10207) **9.00** Euroski (74882) **10.00** Football (49608) **12.00-12.30am** News (68863)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4225337) **8.30** Peyton Place (4224608) **9.00** As the World Turns (4430066) **10.00** Guiding Light (9727153) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9747917)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4228424) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1451578) **1.00** Trailside (9741733) **1.30** Cook Italian (1460849) **2.00** California's Gold (7007172) **2.30** Discover Your World (4887578) **3.00** American Vacation (4751443) **4.00** Travel Guide (4861530) **4.30** Zoo Life (4867714) **5.00** Roads to Freedom (7098424) **5.30** Cook Italian (4858066) **6.00** Australia (4888207) **6.30** Ticket to Paradise (4879559) **7.00** Discover America (6740646) **8.00** Around the World (7094608) **8.30** Travel Guide (7008443) **9.00** Australia (4769462) **9.30** Ticket to Paradise (1431714) **10.00** Discover America (5749917) **11.00** Roads to Freedom (4771207) **11.30** California's Gold (4396714)

TLC

9.00am Room Service (2008240) **9.30** The Roux Brothers (5226356) **10.00** Jimmy's (2047714) **10.30** Only Human (1316917) **11.30** Discovering Psychology (5167199) **12.00** Youth Express (2028004) **12.30pm** House Style (6220172) **1.00** The Roux Brothers (8815578) **1.30** Room Service (5229443) **2.00** A Change of Mind (2048443) **3.00** Shoot the Video (2189240) **3.30-4.00** Two's Country (1168356)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8685337) **7.30** Neighbours (8697172) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2027375) **8.30** EastEnders (2026646) **9.00** The Bill (2017998) **9.30** Sutherland's Law (5029882) **10.30** Angels (1317375) **11.30** Terry and June (3367117) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2020462) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5222530) **1.00** EastEnders (8684608) **1.30** The Bill (5221801) **2.00** After Henry (2102191) **2.30** Foreign Bodies (1166269) **3.00** Knots Landing (9767153) **4.00** Dallas (6717638) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9890462) **5.35** The Dick Emery Show (8683202) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (4986191) **6.30** EastEnders (1180578) **7.00** Keep It in the Family (2113207) **7.30** Hot pl (1179462) **8.00** After Henry (2193627) **8.30** The Lenny Henry Show (2101462) **9.00** The Sweeney (9808820) **10.00** The Bill (2021191) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7729646) **11.10** Cool It (2643917) **11.45** Dr Who (6496153) **12.15am** FILM. The Mango Tree (1977) A young man comes of age during the First World War. With Christopher Pate (9853979) **1.55** Shopping

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6162511) **6.55** Garfield (7639085) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6627646) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (7289858) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4579172) **8.45** Casper and Friends (1785375) **9.00** Sesame Street (76795) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (69511) **12.00** Garfield (41627) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (83191) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (39917) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83666801) **1.45** Baby Follies (83661356) **2.00** Barney (1882) **2.30** Babar (8424) **3.00** Casper (1808820) **3.15** Bill and Ted (394998) **3.45** Sonic (333269) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1404443) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (8288)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickelvet (4780153) **7.15** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (498153) **7.45** Rugrats (497424) **8.15** Nicktoons (580608) **8.45** Nickelvet (8416820) **9.00** Nick Jr (285714) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (90171) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (21337) **1.00** Smoggies (22246) **1.30** Galaxy High School (20608) **2.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (5066) **2.30** Henry's Cat (2086) **3.00** Grimmy (7801) **3.30** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego (6511) **4.00** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (4646) **4.30** Rugrats (3530) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (9646) **5.30** Nickelvet (4882) **6.00** Doug (1795) **6.30-7.00** Secret of the Stones (6375)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Birdscape (1170191) **4.30** From Monkeys to Apes (1176375) **5.00** The Blue Revolution (91249443) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4581356) **7.00** Earth Tremors (9817578) **8.00** Nature Watch (2197269) **8.30** Voyager — The World of National Geographic (2109004) **9.00** First Flights (6812264) **9.30** The X-Planes (5217608) **10.00** Discovery Journal (9818849) **11.00-12.00** Dolphin Phenomenon (8692627)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM. That's Your Funeral (1972): Rivalry develops between two funeral parlours (6086733) **1.30** Smothers Brothers (5223269) **2.00** thirtysomething (2042269) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2183066) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1155882) **4.00** FILM. Saturday Island (1952): Romance blossoms between survivors stranded on an island With Linda Darnell and Tab Hunter (2187882) **6.00** Get Smart (1161066) **6.30** Police Women (1355191) **7.30** Honey West (1164530) **8.00** thirtysomething (9880424) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6517630) **9.30** FILM. Gregory's Girl (1981). Adolescent goalie John Gordon Sinclair develops a crush on schoolgirl footballer Dee Hepburn (5884462) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (2030424)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6086172) **7.00** Living Magazine (6594530) **8.00** Health UK (5980171) **8.30** Rendezvous (6330612) **9.00** Front Gardens (2635004) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7378998) **10.05** Now You See It (3683594) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (6235068) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7005085) **12.00** A Cook's Tour of France (6408375) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48245153) **1.05** Kilroy (8205998) **2.00** Agony Hour (1985646) **3.00** Living Magazine (7681608) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (68174153) **4.00** Infatuation (9208627) **4.30** Crosswits (63801511) **4.55** Raw Energy (7479375) **5.35** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7037004) **6.05** The Susan Powter Show (6377578) **6.30** Brookside (9209356) **7.00** Living Magazine (9741530) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9767578) **9.00** FILM: The Choice (1981): A pregnant girl must decide whether or not to keep the baby With Susan Clarke (98178733) **10.55** Enjoy! (1297658) **11.00** Brookside (1520608) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1973801)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (5462) **5.30** Where I Live (2240) **6.00** The Black Stallion (591066) **6.25** All Clued Up (167085) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2998) **7.30** My Two Dads (9917) **8.00** Christy (34288) **9.00** Moonlighting (14424) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (42356) **10.30** GP (51004) **11.00** Lou Grant (16066) **12.00** Rhoda (81973) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (65202) **1.00** Dangermouse (70318) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (86825) **2.00** Moonlighting (38592) **3.00** Lou Grant (69009) **4.00** Rhoda (58221) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (51283)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (31863) **6.30** The Grind (69424) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (95714) **8.00** VJ Ingo (182153) **11.00** The Soul of MTV (37559) **12.00** Greatest Hits (71356) **1.00pm** MTV Snowball (888530) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (2071199) **3.45** Cinematic (1626004) **4.00** MTV News at Night (1423578) **4.15** 3 from 1 (1406801) **4.30** Dial MTV (8266) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (98761) **6.30** MTV Sports (5191) **7.00** Greatest Hits (27998) **8.00** Most Wanted (49882) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (72085) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (170998) **10.15** Cinematic (168153) **10.30** MTV News at Night (898085) **10.45** 3 from 1 (886240) **11.00** The End? (71153) **1.00am** The Soul of MTV (10573) **2.00** The Grind (43399) **2.30** Videos (9447196)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9740004) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (8062066) **12.00** The Bridge (7606882) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9474288) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3542066) **3.30** Into The Music (1381117) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1438627) **7.00** VH-1 for You (6742004) **8.00** VH-1 Rock (6728424) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5748288) **10.00** The Bridge (4436240) **11.30** The Nightfly (4444269) **1.30am** Ten of the Best (5619370) **2.30** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including at 6.00 Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (80384714) **8.30** Hum Zameen (75753882) **9.00** FILM (84978559) **12.00** Andaaz (75774998) **12.30pm** Manasi (81614172) **1.00** Movie (29959530) **4.00** Chunati (78511511) **4.30** Yuganter (78517795) **5.00** Kab Kyon Kahan (92284191) **5.30** Dak Ghar (78531375) **6.00** Spectrum Sports (78538288) **6.30** Musafatain (78512240) **7.00** Video Junction (92251627) **7.30** Swayamvar 2000 (78518424) **8.00** News Bulletin (92260375) **8.30** Antakshri (92249882) **9.00** Campus (34297004) **9.30** Aap Ki Adalat (81601608) **10.00** Insight (75775627) **10.30** India Business Review (75784375) **11.00-12.00** Kachwa Aur Khargosh (66241288)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

Theme Spycatchers!

7.00pm Where The Spies Are (1965) Country doctor David Niven is forced to spy for his country in this comedy thriller (16521849) **9.00 The Liquidator** (1966): Hapless playboy Rod Taylor unwittingly becomes a political assassin (76046714) **11.00 Espionage Agent** (1939): An American agent goes undercover to expose a Nazi spy ring. Starring Joel McCrea (63369375) **12.25am Espionage** (1937) Reporters board the Orient Express to spy on a corrupt arms baron Starring Paul Lukas (73908009) **1.40 The Adventures of Tartu** (1943) British spy Robert Donat helps Czech partisans to destroy a Nazi factory (46774221) **3.30-5.00 Espionage Agent** (1939): As 11am (31703738)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1499424) **1.55** A Country Practice (77541288) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7018462) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6846172) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6023714) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (287288) **7.30-8.00** Food Guide (627) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (131199) **12.35am-2.25** The Scalphunters (796863) **3.20** The Beat (8661863) **4.10** Travel Trails (81554955) **4.40-5.00** Music Box Profile (56945554)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1499424) **1.55** A Country Practice (77541288) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7018462) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6846172) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6023714) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (287288) **7.30-8.00** Heart of the Country (627) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (131199) **11.40-12.40pm** Crime Story (372627) **4.15am** Jobfinder (6186202) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7123106)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1499424) **12.55** Shortland Street ([illegible]) **1.25** Home and Away (87670017) **1.50** Vanessa (35708008) **2.20** Gardeners' Diary ([illegible]) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7018462) **3.25** Granada News (6846172) **3.30-3.40** The Magic House (2011101) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6023714) **6.25** Granada Tonight (287288) **7.00** Emmerdale (1066) **7.30-8.00** The Main Ingredient (627) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (131199) **11.40** Granada Soccer Night (372627) **12.40am-2.25** The Inspector (138757) **3.20** America's Top Ten ([illegible]) **3.45** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (23019) **4.15** Jobfinder (8803738) **5.00-5.30** Vanessa ([illegible])

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1499424) **2.25** Wish You Were Here ? (74581240) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7924443) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (6846172) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6023714) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (443) **7.30-8.00** West Eye View (627) **10.30-10.40** HTV West Headlines and Weather (131199) **4.15am-5.00** Jobfinder (8803738)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (1499424) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (6846172) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (443) **7.30-8.00** Not One of Us - The Lives of David Lloyd George 1863-1945 (627) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (131199)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1499424) **1.55** A Country Practice (77541288) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7018462) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6846172) **5.10** Home and Away (6023714) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Making It Happen (413714) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (191) **6.30-7.00** Doing It Up (443) **7.30-8.00** Serve You Right (627) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (131199) **12.35am-2.25** The Scalphunters (796863) **3.20** The Beat (8661863) **4.10** Travel Trails (81554955) **4.40** Music Box Profile (56945554) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (26486)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77541288) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7018462) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6023714) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (385269) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (443) **7.30-8.00** Good Advice (627) **11.40** Tyne Tees Sports Special (372627) **12.40am** The Equalizer (1997486) **1.35** The Little Picture Show (7835202) **2.35** Sport AM (8427221) **3.35** The Beat (8024080) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (99776)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 2.25-3.25 The Young Doctors (74581240) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6023714) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (55795) **7.30-8.00** Wild West Country (627) **4.15am-5.00** Jobfinder (8803738)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8630240) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (1499424) **1.55** A Country Practice (77541288) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7018462) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire. Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (6846172) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6023714) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (385269) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (443) **7.30-8.00** Good Advice (627) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (131199) **11.40** Your Match (372627) **12.40am** The Equalizer (1997486) **1.35** The Little Picture Show (7835202) **2.35** Sport AM (8427221) **3.35** The Beat (8024080) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (99776)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (18563) **9.00** The Morning Line Cheltenham (49646) **9.30** Yapolion (157172) **12.00pm** House To House (29882) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (78646) **1.00** Hangin' With Mr Cooper (68040) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing Cheltenham (378153) **4.30** Saved By The Bell - The New Class (240) **5.00** 5 Pump (2172) **5.30** Countdown (820) **6.00** Newyddion (142714) **6.15** Heno (903337) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (9608) **7.30** Mbs O Dwrn (269) **8.00** Dau Rhys (Ar Frys) (6356) **8.30** Newyddion (3761) **9.00** Cutting Edge Casino (7337) **10.00** Brookside (20511) **10.30** Dim Tafod (232607) **11.25** The Best Of The Tube (448004) **11.55** Channel 4 Racing. Cheltenham (488004) **12.25am** Heigh Ho! (4314844)

هكذا من الاصل

SUNDAY MARCH 12

CHOICE: new drama about women who sell sexual services; Jodie Foster interviewed; a legal debate

No false glamour attached to prostitution

A six-part drama about prostitutes may look like a bid to win viewers with sensational material but, if anything, **Band of Gold** (ITV, 9pm: see the feature, page 6) leans in the opposite direction. The writer, Kay Mellor, has set out to present the oldest profession from a woman's view and to treat it with understanding. There is little about glamour, much about exploitation and danger.

Jodie Foster admits that she likes interviews and proceeds to give a very good one to **The South Bank Show** (ITV, 10.15pm). The peg is her new film, *Nell*. But her conversation with Melvyn Bragg ranges widely and intelligently enough to smother any suspicion of a plug. Foster is a rarity in Hollywood, a child star who survived the perils of early exposure to become a fine actress. She matured early. Alan Parker, who directed her in *Bugsy Malone*, recalls that even at 13 she was advising the cameraman on a tricky shot. Now 32 she is in control of her career and interviewers alike. When Bragg tries to move into off-screen territory, such as the attempt of her crazed fan to assassinate President Reagan, she politely declines to be drawn.

The Big Picture (BBC 2, 7.15pm) is a new occasional series on topical issues. Charles Pollard, Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, launches the venture in forthright style by arguing that the English legal system too often results in guilty people being acquitted. Drawing on recent cases, he says the adversarial system is more concerned with winning than establishing the truth. He argues that the guilty can be unfairly protected by rules on the admissibility of evidence and by not having to divulge their case to the prosecution. The studio discussion, which follows, has plenty to bite on.

Encounters (Channel 4, 7pm: see the feature, page 3) goes looking for the beast of Exmoor. Variously reckoned to be a puma, a panther, a leopard or a lynx, this creature has regularly been sighted over the past ten years. But nobody has managed to track it down. The tangible evidence for its existence is sketchy, consisting of savaged sheep, paw prints and blurred images on out-of-focus photographs. Which has not stopped an army of animal welfare supporters, wildlife photographers, off-duty detectives and a former poacher from trying to pick up the beast's trail. Norman Hill's entertaining film becomes as much about the pursuers as their quarry.

PETER WAYMARK

Cathy Tyson is featured in *Band of Gold* (ITV, 9pm)

BBC 1

6.20 Match Of The Day: The Road To Wembley (r) (s) (2257657)

7.30 Smoggies! (r) (5994676)

7.55 Playdays (s) (5228589)

8.15 Breakfast with Frost. With David Frost and guests. Includes **News** and weather at **8.15** and **9.00** (619386)

9.15 A Word in Season. A sermon by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. (s) (9834893)

10.00 See Hear! Featuring a three-year-old with a cochlear implant. (Signed and subtitled) (s) (21831)

10.30 French Experience (s) (4861947)

10.45 Who Learns Wins (s) (4859102)

11.00 The System on Trial. How the legal system works. With barrister John Taylor (s) (4639)

11.30 Bodycounts. Elaine C. Smith introduces people with a positive outlook on life (s) (1638)

12.00 CountryFile (s) (1439270) **12.25pm Weather** (1541831)

12.30 News followed by **On the Record**. Trends in British and European politics. With John Humphrys. (Ceefax) (68725)

1.30 EastEnders. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8050725)

2.50 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Live coverage of the FA Cup quarter-final tie between Everton and Newcastle United, plus highlights of Manchester United v QPR (s) (97108102)

4.55 The Clothes Show. Jeff Banks travels to the Falkland Islands to lend his expertise to the development of a garment. (Ceefax) (s) (1687763)

5.20 Antiques Roadshow. Hugh Scully and the team visit the Anvil Arts Centre in Basingstoke. (Ceefax) (s) (3045560)

6.05 News (Ceefax) and weather (128676)

6.25 Songs of Praise. Billy Graham talks about his life's work and how he is coping with Parkinson's disease. (Ceefax) (s) (710522)

7.00 As Time Goes By. Comedy series starring Dame Judi Dench, Geoffrey Palmer and Moira Brooker. (Ceefax) (s) (4980)

7.30 Pie in the Sky: The Mystery of Pikey. The local bigwigs want Crabbe to nail the "yob" they think is responsible for a spate of burglaries. With Richard Griffiths. (Ceefax) (s) (384541)

8.20 Only Fools and Horses. Comedy with David Jason (r). (Ceefax) (603522)

8.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (692676)

9.05 FILM: When Harry Met Sally (1989). Two platonic friends form a love/hate relationship that spans 11 years before they realise they are in love. Starring Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan and Carrie Fisher. Directed by Rob Reiner. (Ceefax) (s) (2748909)

10.35 Heart of the Matter: The Price of Peace. South Africa faces another major challenge as servicemen, policemen and activists wait to hear whether or not they will be pardoned for offences committed during the apartheid years. (911812)

11.10 FILM: The Producers (1967). Black comedy about a crooked Broadway producer starring Zero Mostel, Gene Wilder and Kenneth Mars Directed by Mel Brooks. (Ceefax) (392386)

12.40am Weather (1736690)

BBC2

6.15am Open University: Pure Maths **6.40** Maths Model **7.05** Maths **7.30** The Present in the Past — Greek Drama **7.55** Shakespeare's Henry IV — A Workshop **8.20** Rehabilitation Technology **8.45** Going to School in Japan (45024589)

9.10-12.00 Children's BBC beginning with **Grimmy** (7052928) **9.25 The Artbox Bunch** with Tony Hart (s) (7040183) **9.40 Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show** (r) (5469980)

10.00 For Amusement Only. Comedy and entertainment show (s) (29473) **10.30 Grange Hill**. The series from 1983 with Susan Tully (r). (Ceefax) (8837021)

10.55 The Biz Drama series following the fortunes of the pupils of the Markov School of Dance and Drama (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4056102) **11.20 Short Change** with Zoe Ball (s) (6843541) **11.45 The O-Zone.** Pop music magazine (r) (s) (4070522)

12.00 Snowy River — The McGregor Saga. Australian family drama Joanne Walker searches for her younger brother (s) (6827657) **Northern Ireland:** Over the Wall 12.30-12.45 The Singing Kettle

12.45pm Sunday Show presented by *Time Out* Comedy Award winner Donna McPhail, with Katie Puckrick and Veronica Webb (s) (6848522)

1.30 Regional Westminster Programmes (92003)

2.00 FILM: Ivanhoe (1952) starring Robert Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor, Joan Fontaine and George Sanders. Swashbuckling spectacular based on the novel by Sir Walter Scott. Directed by Richard Thorpe (Ceefax) (238270)

3.45 World Figure Skating Championships: 1995 Gala from Birmingham. Sue Barker introduces highlights of the week from the first world championships to be held in Great Britain for 45 years. Commentary by Alan Weeks and Robin Cousins (s) (2480164)

5.10 Rugby Special. The programme looks at the championship race in Wales and Scotland (s) (7969947) **Wales:** Rugby Special Wales

6.10 World Indoor Athletics. Helen Rollason and David Moorcroft are joined by Sally Gunnell to talk about the action from the final day in Barcelona. Including live coverage of both the men's and women's 60m hurdles finals at **6.50** (s) (4124367)

7.15 CHOICE **The Big Picture: Criminal Injustice.** (Ceefax) (9757473)

8.25 Moving Pictures. Includes reviews of *Little Women* starring Susan Sarandon and Winona Ryder; and Jodie Foster's *Nell*. Plus an interview with screenwriter Paul Schrader. (Ceefax) (801909)

9.15 The Trial of O.J. Simpson. Sue Ellicott reviews the week's proceedings (s) (829831)

10.00 Messengers from Moscow: Centre. In the last of the series, a look at why the world's most powerful communist state collapsed From Brezhnev's addiction to tranquillisers through to Gorbachev's "perestroika". (Ceefax) (3198)

11.00 FILM: Light Sleeper (1991) starring Willem Dafoe and Susan Saradon. An ageing drugs-runner decides to break away from the seedy world of narcotics and start afresh. Directed by Paul Schrader. (Ceefax) (740657). Ends at **12.45am**

LWT

6.00am GMTV (75183)

8.00 Disney Club (Teletext) (s) (74526218)

10.15 Link. Topical magazine made for and by disabled people. (Teletext) (s) (1827473)

10.30 A Meditation: Making Sense of Faith. Inner-city priest Sir Arnold Wollendale, Frank Wright and Jenni Murray ponder whether faith has any relevance in today's secular world. (Teletext) (s) (72305)

11.30 Sunday Brunch presented by Julian Pettifer and Janey Lee Grace (s) (58102)

12.30pm Crosstalk with Donald MacIntyre. The guests include the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Paul Condon (30676)

1.00 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (72300676)

1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby and a studio audience quiz another figure in the public eye (s) (4429541)

2.00 The Motor Show Nicky Fox visits former world champion Frank Hawley's drag racing school; while Eamonn O'Neal goes offroading with the new Vauxhall Frontera (8560)

2.30 FILM: Diamonds are Forever (1971) starring Sean Connery as the seemingly indestructible spy 007 attempts to foil a scheme to point a laser at Washington from space. Directed by Guy Hamilton. (Teletext) (54710102)

4.40 Animal Country. Desmond Morris and Sarah Kennedy look at the legend of the "Beast of Exmoor" (s) (9921541)

5.10 The London Programme. Trevor Phillips presents an investigation into the people who have obtained jobs in the capital's town halls by using false references (6152270)

5.40 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (571763)

6.00 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (486102)

6.10 NEW **Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman.** Jane Seymour returns as the indomitable doctor (495676)

7.00 Barrymore. (Teletext) (s) (8893)

8.00 Catherine Cookson's The Gambling Man. The final part of the series following the fortunes of a rent collector who decides to improve his lot in life by entering the shady world of gambling. (Teletext) (s) (7541)

9.00 CHOICE **Band of Gold: Sold.** (Teletext) (s) (7305)

10.00 ITN News and weather (790183)

10.15 CHOICE **The South Bank Show: Jodie Foster's Brilliant Career.** (Teletext) (229812)

11.15 The Hidden Room (494763)

11.40 The Short Show (962831)

12.25am Cue the Music featuring Kid Creole and the Coconuts live in concert (2900936)

1.25 FILM: Manhunt for Murder (1971). When a waiter witnesses a brutal Mafia murder in New York he flees to his native Normandy village pursued by two men. Directed by Claude Mulot (937706)

3.05 FILM: American Dreamer (1984) starring JoBeth Williams. An American housewife writes a thriller and wins a trip to Paris. However, she when she is knocked down by a car, she believes herself to be her fictional heroine. Directed by Rick Rosenthal (812619)

5.00 De Medici Kitchen (88416)

5.30 ITN Morning News (41394). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.15am Transworld Sport (r) (5631473)

7.10 Chigley (r) (1704454) **7.25 Madeline** (r) (5304015) **7.50 Hullaballoo** (r) (s) (5212928)

8.10 Inspector Gadget. Gadget is sent to Africa to track down Claw's hidden lair. (4465893)

8.35 NEW **Adventures in Odyssey.** Animated story. (s) (4738015)

9.05 The Pink Panther. The panther is left babysitting a parrot, and is asked to design a monument for an Egyptian princess. (s) (3169251)

9.30 Back to the Future. Back in time to a Dickensian Christmas (s) (7419744)

9.55 Droopy (5482831) **10.15 Wise Up.** Consumer affairs magazine for young people (s) (6031386) **10.35 Dennis** (r) (4862676)

10.45 Saved by the Bell: The New Class (Teletext) (654299)

11.15 Rawhide: Incident of the Garden of Eden. Rowdy's search for cattle leads him to an English pub, an aristocrat and his daughter (611744)

12.15pm Little House on the Prairie: Promise to Keep. Adventures of a close-knit Kansas plains family. (Teletext) (994509)

1.15 Board Stupid. Skiing in Tokyo with Normski and Phil, plus the third round of the Channel 4 Trophy from Italy, and snowboarding from Munich. (s) (918909)

1.45 Football Italia. Live coverage of Parma v Sampdoria (52221657)

4.00 FILM: The Virgin Queen (1955). Historical drama about Queen Elizabeth I and Sir Walter Raleigh, starring Bette Davis, Richard Todd and Joan Collins. (Teletext) (68642015)

5.40 Alternative Fringe. Animated hairdressing, followed by **News** and weather (834744)

5.50 Machinations: Vibrations. Johnny White constructs a giant heavy metal guitar and a snake scope to demonstrate the effect of vibrations on our daily lives. (Teletext) (s) (814980)

6.05 Party of Five: Homework. The Salinger siblings try to stay together after the death of their parents. With Scott Wolf, Neve Campbell, Lacey Chabert and Paula Michelle Devicq (Teletext) (s) (100096)

7.00 CHOICE **Encounters: The Call of the Beast** (Teletext) (s) (9763)

8.00 The King and Us. A religious discussion chaired by Christopher Hitchens with Helena Kennedy QC, Jonathan Clark and Baroness Flather. (Teletext) (s) (5183)

9.00 TV Operas: Good Friday 1663. Contemporary opera about a teenager who remembers her past. Composed by Kate and Mike Westbrook. (5947)

10.00 FILM: Little Man Tate (1991). Jodie Foster's directorial debut in which she also stars, as mother fighting against the odds to keep her son. (Teletext) (780015)

11.55 Karachi Kops. Capturing the stories of policing in Pakistan's largest city. (Teletext) (r) (182676)

12.25am FILM: Baiju Bawra (1952, b/w). A musical set in the time of the Mughal Emperor Akbar the Great. With Meena Kumari, Bharat Bushan and Surendra. Directed by Vijay Bhatt. In Hindi with English subtitles. Ends at **3.10** (71494481)

MONDAY MARCH 13

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat Show (31145) 8.00 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (64697) 8.30 Blockbusters (63868) 9.00 Oprah Winfrey (77787) 10.00 Concentration (92061) *10.30 Card Sharks (49232)* 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (24058) 12.00 Urban Peasant (67684) 12.30pm Anything But Love (80400) 1.00 St Elsewhere (95955) 2.00 If Tomorrow Comes (93690) 3.00 Oprah Winfrey (6265619) 3.50 DJ Kat Show (9722058) 4.30 Mighty Morphin Power *Rangers (2690) 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* (1619) 6.00 Murphy Brown (7955) 6.30 Family Ties (4435) 7.00 Rescue (2348) 7.30 M*A*S*H (6049) 8.00 Due South (25110) 9.00 Civil Wars (18674) 10.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (11961) 11.00 Late Show with David Letterman (292348) 11.00 *Littlejohn (977787) 12.40am Chances (3388508)* 1.30 WKRP in Cincinnati (11733) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (8665064)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (1405023) 9.30 The Trial of O J Simpson (5045706) 10.10 CBS 60 Minutes (7716315) 11.00 News and Business (307708) 1.30pm News (13619) 2.30 Parliament Live (40145) 4.00 News and Business (80930) 5.00 Live At Five (8342313) *6.05 Richard Littlejohn* (19302394) 8.00 News and Business (49416) 9.30 The Trial of O J. Simpson (564918) 12.30am CBS Evening News (9765288) 1.10 60 Minutes (9485530) 2.30 Parliament Replay (83269) 4.30 News (62840) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (37656)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1356023) **10.00 Two of a Kind** (1983): Musical with John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John (74416) **12.00 The Flim Flam Man** (1967): Comedy about a con-man starring George C. Scott (96315) **2.00pm Aloha Summer** (1988): Mismatched teenagers party in 1959 Hawaii (39313) **4.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea** (1961): Submarine adventure with Walter Pidgeon (3023) **6.00 Archer** (1985): Exciting tale of the first winner of the Melbourne Cup horse race set in 1862 (22077) **8.00 The Power of One** (1992): Drama about a young boy growing up in apartheid South Africa (98249708) **10.10 A Better Tomorrow II** (1987): A cop infiltrates his brother's gang in this martial arts sequel (592528) **11.55 Mr Baseball** (1993): Comedy starring Tom Selleck *(350232)* **1.45am The Positively True Adventures of the Alleged Texas Cheerleader** (1993): A housewife places a contract on her daughter's rival. With Holly Hunter (950337) **3.20-4.50 Honour thy Mother** (1992): Fact-based drama (79456462)

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6.00pm Ace in the Hole (1951): Hack Kirk Douglas exploits a mining disaster (97329) **8.00 Lilies of the Field** (1963): Sidney Poitier helps German nuns to build a church (92874) **10.00-12.00 The Border** (1982): Jack Nicholson plays a patrol guard whose wife encourages him to lead a life of corruption (69058)

[illegible] MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Lucy Gallant (1955): Jane Wyman is a dressmaker who is better at business than love (61955) **8.00 Ali Baba** (1985): Animated adventure (25961) **9.00 Avalanche** (1975): A party of children go skiing in Austria (97597) **10.00 The Blue Bird** (1940): Shirley Temple is in search of happiness (4948619) **11.25 Lifeboat** (1944): Alfred Hitchcock drama (42949619) **1.05pm Who's Been Sleeping in My Bed?** (1963): Television doctor Dean Martin starts dispensing off-screen advice to the wives of colleagues (78759139) **3.00 Guinevere** (1993): The Arthurian legend (72962597) **4.35 Ali Baba** (1985). As 8am (5094329) **6.00 Freeze Frame** (1989): A young journalist uncovers city corruption (85706) **7.30 UK Top Ten** (3329) **8.00 Jack the Bear** (1993): Single father Danny DeVito learns to cope with adult life (29936) **10.00 Without Warning: Terror in the Towers** (1993): The bombing of New York's World Trade Centre on February 26, 1993 (984684) **11.40 The Secret Passion of Robert Clayton** (1992): A failed big city lawyer moves to the South and redeems himself (604690) **1.15am Running Delilah** (1992): A government agent takes revenge on the gang that killed her when she comes back to life (500882) **2.45 Fragment of Fear** (1971): David Hemmings is plagued by menacing experiences when his aunt is murdered (470066) **4.25-5.45 Freeze Frame** (1989): As 6pm (586627)

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7.00am NBA Basketball (124955) 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style (14665) 10.00 Cricket Special from the West Indies (65459) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (85665) 12.30pm *F.A. Cup Sixth Round* (23685) 2.30 ATP Tennis: Newsweek Champions Cup (80865) 4.30 Snowboard Tour (6706) 5.00 WWF Mania (7435) 6.00 Soccer News (764503) 6.15 Fish Tales (769058) 6.30 Stunt Team Championship (4023) 7.00 US Grand Prix Athletics (58416) *8.00 Tartan Extra (65752) 10.00 Soccer (352961)* 10.15 Fish Tales (357416) 10.30 ATP Tennis (79936) 12.30-2.00 Tartan Extra (37820)

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7.30am Golf (48416) 8.30 Figure Skating (16965) 10.30 Nordic Skiing (72690) 12.00 Alpine Skiing (95665) 1.30pm Football (46961) 2.30 Athletics (71961) 4.30 Live Nordic Skiing (82145) 6.00 Nordic Skiing (5139) 6.30 Eurosport News (2619) 7.00 Speedworld (74023) 9.00 Football (24961) 10.30 Boxing (59684) *11.30 Eurogolf Magazine* (12058) 12.30-1.00am Eurosport News (25288).

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8.00am Loving (4258665) 8.30 Peyton Place (4257936) 9.00 As the World Turns (4463394) 10.00 Guiding Light (9750461) 11.00-12.00 Another World (9843145)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Travel Austria (4251752) 12.30pm Zoo Life (1557706) 1.00 Great Escape (9847961) 1.30 Cook Italian (1556077) 2.00 California's Gold (7030400) 2.30 Travel Austria (4983706) 3.00 Hymns of Nature (4784771) 4.00 Sky Travel Guide (4974058) 4.30 Zoo Life (4890042) 5.00 Trailside (7021752) 5.30 Cook Italian (4861394) 6.00 Getaway (4984435) 6.30 Discover Your World (4975787) 7.00 American Vacation (5846874) 8.00 *Around the World in 30 Minutes (7027936)* 8.30 Sky Travel (7039771) 9.00 Getaway (4865690) 9.30 Discover Your World (1464042) 10.00 American Vacation (5845145) 11.00 Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (4877435) 11.30-12.00 California's Gold (4329042)

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9.00am The Joy of Painting (2048868) 9.30 Madeleine Cooke (5259684) 10.00 Being There (2070042) 10.30 Only Human (1411145) 11.30 Robert's Story (1862967) 12.00 Decisions, Decisions (2124232) 12.30pm Work in Progress (6253400) 1.00 Madeleine Cooke (8711706) 1.30 Joy of Painting (5252771) 2.00 Jimmy's (2206961) 2.30 Park High (1196139) 3.00 How Does Your Garden Grow? (2129868) 3.30-4.00 Running Repairs (1191684)

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7.00am Give Us a Clue (6618665) 7.30 Neighbours (8620400) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (2123503) 8.30 EastEnders (2122874) 9.00 The Bill (2040226) 9.30 Flesh and Blood (5052110) 10.30 Juliet Bravo (1413503) 11.30 Terry and June (9062905) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (2126690) 12.30pm Neighbours (6335058) 1.00 EastEnders (8617936) 1.30 The Bill (5334329) 2.00 Spring and Autumn (2215619) 2.30 Rings on their Fingers (1198697) 3.00 Knots Landing (5462941) 4.00 Dallas (7468526) 5.00 Every Second Counts (9996690) 5.35 The Dick Emery Show (9334990) 5.50 Hi-De-Hi (4099619) 6.30 EastEnders (1280706) 7.00 The Two Ronnies (9619936) 8.00 Rings on their Fingers (2122955) 8.30 My Wife Next Door (2207690) 9.00 Secret Army (9911348) 10.00 The Bill (2134619) 10.30 Top of the Pops (7825874) 11.10 Alas Smith and Jones (2749145) 11.45 Dr Who (5429461) 12.15am FILM: A Town Like Alice (1956): A group of British civilians and Australian PoWs receive rough treatment at the hands of the Japanese forces (81709694) 2.20-3.30 Shopping at Night (87177917)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6102139) 6.55 Garfield (7662313) 7.25 Eek (6723874) 7.55 Degrassi Junior (3984446) 8.25 Super Mario (4502400) 8.45 Casper (1661503) 9.00 Sesame Street (77771) 10.00 It's Droibee Time (43145) 12.00 Garfield and Friends (18961) 12.30pm Eek the Cat (61597) 1.00 Beverly Hills Teens (99961) 1.30 Super Mario (83779329) 1.45 Baby Follies (83694684) 2.00 Barney (8706) 2.30 Babar (9110) 3.00 Casper and Friends (1911348) 3.15 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (912394) 3.45 Sonic the Hedgehog (911665) 4.15 Head to Head in 3D (1437771) 4.30-5.00 California Dreams (2874)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4713481) 7.15 Pee Wee's Playhouse (112787) 7.45 Rugrats (111058) 8.15 Doug (115394) 8.45 Nickalive! (8528348) 9.00 Nick Jr (810400) 12.00 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (89435) 12.30pm Muppet Show (16023) 1.00 Smoggies (62232) 1.30 Galaxy High School (15394) 2.00 Alvin (5690) 2.30 Henry's Cat (2464) 3.00 Grimmy (8597) 3.30 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (5329) 4.00 Rude Dog (1935) 4.30 Rugrats (3348) 5.00 Clarissa Explains It All (3042) 5.30 Odyssey (4400) 6.00 Doug (1313) 6.30-7.00 Are You Afraid of the Dark? (2665)

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4.00pm The Global Family (1283619) 4.30 Earthfile (1272503) 5.00 Blood, Sweat and Glory (91272771) 6.05 Beyond 2000 (4514694) 7.00 Next Step (2217077) 7.30 Future Quest (1273232) 8.00 Giotto (9826226) 9.00 Reaching for the Skies (9902690) 10.00 The Blue Revolution (9912077) 11.00 Special Forces (8818067) 11.30-12.00 Those Who Dare (2076226)

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12.00 FILM: A Walk in the Sun (1946). The story of a US infantry platoon from their landing at Salerno to their objective (2150232) 2.00 The Avengers (2075597) 3.00 Rat Patrol (2116394) 3.30 Hogan's Heroes (1188110) 4.00 FILM: My Bodyguard (1980). A boy hires a colossal classmate to protect him from the school bully (2110110) 6.00 It's Garry Shandling's Show (1184394) 6.30 Cannon (1468619) 7.30 Invisible Man (1277058) 8.00 The Avengers (9813762) 9.00 New Avengers (9906416) 10.00-12.00am FILM: Times Square (1980): Teenage runaways meet a DJ and find fame as rock singers (8517810)

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6.00am Agony Hour (6019400) 7.00 Living (8607058) 8.00 Go For It (2136459) 8.30 Rendezvous (2035400) 9.00 On the House (8330892) 9.30 Kate and Allie (7301226) 10.05 Now You See It (9388482) 10.30 The Susan Powter Show (2930856) 11.00 Young and the Restless (7038313) 12.00 Masterchef (6564503) 12.35pm Rendezvous (48276481) 1.05 Kilroy (8238226) 2.00 Agony Hour (1081874) 3.00 Living Magazine (7614936) 3.45 Gladrags and Glamour (85107481) 4.00 Infatuation (9231965) 4.30 Crosswits (9237139) 5.00 Take Six Cooks (3453752) 5.35 New Mr and Mrs Show (7133232) 6.05 Susan Powter Show (8473706) 6.30 Brookside (9232684) 7.00 Living (9654066) 8.00 Young and the Restless (9853706) 9.00 FILM: The Day the Loving Stopped (1981): Two sisters try to come to terms with their parents' separation (98274961) 10.55 Sneak Scenes (7992446) 11.00 Brookside (1663936) 11.30-12.00 Infatuation UK (1066329)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (9058) 5.30 Teen Win, Lose or Draw (4446) 6.00 Boogies Diner (784752) 6.25 All Clued Up (734771) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit (6394) 7.30 My Two Dads (3503) 8.00 Road To Avonlea (94232) 9.00 Moonlighting (18868) 10.00 Family Catchphrase (19590) 10.30 GP (22110) 11.00 Lou Grant (33810) 12.00 Rhoda (95553) 12.30 Big Brother Jake (67288) 1.00 Dangermouse (66356) 1.30 Trivial Pursuit (99559) 2.00 Moonlighting (23288) 3.00 Lou Grant (52337) 4.00 Rhoda (36627) 4.30-5.00 *Big Brother Jake (77849)*

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (35207) 6.30 The Grind (83868) 7.00 Awake on the Wildside (99954) *8.00 VJ Ingo (726597) 11.00 Soul of MTV (97503)* 12.00 Greatest Hits (48690) 1.00pm MTV Snowball (413226) 3.30 Coca Cola Report (8776987) 3.45 Cinematic (7221892) 4.00 News (1529706) 4.15 3 From 1 (1519329) 4.30 Dial MTV (4232) 5.00 Hit List UK (35684) 7.00 Greatest Hits (14042) 8.00 *Aerosmith Rockumentary (7400) 8.30 MTV Unplugged* (9435) 9.00 Real World 3 (70110) 9.30 Beavis (56519) 10.00 Coca Cola Report (887232) 10.15 Cinematic (882787) 10.30 News (512619) 10.45 3 from 1 (500874) 11.00 The End? (73139) 1.00am Soul of MTV (58199) 2.00 The Grind *(47733) 2.30-5.00 Night Videos (9470424)*

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7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9846232) 9.00 Café VH-1 (8095394) 12.00 The Bridge *(1465771) 1.00pm Videos (9858619) 1.30 Ten of* The Best (9870416) 2.30 Heart and Soul (3575394) 3.30 Into the Music (7088905) 5.00 Prime Cuts (4880665) 6.30 VH-1 to 1: Elvis Costello (4977145) 7.00 VH-1 for You (5848232) 8.00 VH-1 Album Chart (5782868) 10.00 The Bridge (4478868) *11.30 The Nightfly (4477597)* 1.30am *Ten of The* Best (5659998) 2.30 Dawn Patrol

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Country music from 6am to 7pm, including at 5.00 *Saturday Nite Dance Ranch* 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

[illegible]

7.00am Asian Morning (80317042) 8.30 Aamne Saamne (75796110) 9.00 India Business Review (75883690) 9.30 Dillagi 10.00 Yeh hai Bombay Meri Jaan (49012868) 10.30 Kya Scene Hai (75889874) 11.00 Wah Janaab (34217868) 11.30 Filmi Chakkar (34218597) 12.00 Sajan Sajni (81739435) 1.00pm Khubsoorat (29082058) 4.00 Daldal (34304348) 5.00 Junglee Toofan Tyre Puncture (92377619) 5.30 Dak Ghar (78637503) 6.00 Sa Re Ga Na (78634416) 6.30 Musafatain (78552868) 7.00 Get Set Go (92284955) 7.30 Ek Minute (78541762) 8.00 News 8.30 Commander (92272110) 9.00-12.00 FILM (73389990)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm Two Sisters from Boston (1946): Starring Jimmy Durante (18627077) **9.00 Trial** (1955): Glenn Ford defends a Mexican (75071042) **11.00 On the Run** (1983): Paul Winfield is an American convict in Australia who falls foul of his ruthless hit-man boss Rod Taylor (99240416) **12.50am The Man from Down Under** (1943): A former-boxer adopts two Belgian orphans (57800559) **2.45-5.00 On the Run** (1983) As 11pm (94861443)

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CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (1422752) 1.55 A Country Practice (77647416) 2.20 Houseparty (74522597) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (7114690) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (6879400) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6056042) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (193464) 10.30 Anglia News (603955) 10.40-11.10 The Magic and Mystery Show (592874) 12.10am Coach (9132608) 12.35 Endsleigh League Extra (4633608) 1.20 Killing Machine (193379) 3.00 Sport AM (3198424) 3.55 The Time . the Place (8959608) 4.30 Yan Can Cook (13646) 5.00-5.30 Wanted Dead or Alive (62424)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (1422752) 1.55 A Country Practice (77647416) 2.20 Look and Cook (74522597) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (7114690) *3.25-3.30 Central* News (6879400) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6056042) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (193464) 10.30-10.40 Central News and Weather (603955) 11.40 The Monday Night Fight (653226) 12.45am-1.30 Endsleigh League Football Extra (4657288) 4.25 *Jobfinder (2170366)* 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7166424)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News *(1422752) 12.55 Shortland Street (2986226)* 1.25 Home and Away (87676145) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (6988955) 2.45-3.20 Do Medici Kitchen (2014868) 3.25-3.30 Granada News (6879400) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (6056042) 6.25-7.00 Granada Tonight (193464) 10.30 Granada News (603955) 10.40-11.10 The *Motor Show (592874)* 12.10am Coach (8884559) 12.45 Endsleigh League Extra (4657288) 1.30 Sport AM (3071004) 2.25 Quiz Night (7446207) 2.55 Queen of Diamonds (5767733) 4.25 Jobfinder (51859707) 4.55-5.30 The Time.. the Place (7682795)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (1422752) 1.55-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7972329) 3.25-3.30 HTV West Headlines (6879400) 5.10-5.40 The New Mr & Mrs *Show (6056042) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (955) 10.30-*10.40 HTV West Headlines and Weather (603955) 11.40 Spotlight (664226) 12.10am-12.45 The Powers That Be (8884559) 4.25-4.55 Jobfinder (51859707)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (1422752) 3.25-3.30 HTV Wales News (6879400) 5.10-5.40 Eye TV (6056042) 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (955) 10.30-10.40 HTV Wales *News and Weather (603955) 11.40-12.10pm Jazz! Jazz! Jazz!* (664226)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 *Meridian News and Weather.* (1422752) 1.55 A Country Practice (77647416) 2.20-3.20 Murder, She Wrote (4448023) 3.25-3.30 Meridian News and Weather (6879400) 5.10 Home and Away (6056042) 5.37 Three Minutes - The Listings (693936) 5.40 ITN News; Weather (946077) 6.00 *Meridian Tonight (503) 6.30-7.00 Country Ways* (955) 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (603955) 10.40-11.10 The Trek (592874) 12.10am Coach (9132608) 12.35 Endsleigh League Extra (4633608) 1.20 Killing Machine (193379) 3.00 Sport AM (3198424) 3.55 The Time... the Place *(8959608) 4.30 Yan Can Cook (13646)* 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (62424)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8670868) 12.20pm Westcountry News *(1431400) 12.25-12.30 My Story (1430771)* 1.55 Gardeners' Diary (35836435) 2.25-2.55 The Young Doctors (74521868) 3.25-3.30 Westcountry News, Weather (6879400) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6056042) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (39329) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather *(603955) 11.40-12.45pm Crime Story (553226)* 4.25am-4.55 Jobfinder (51859707)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8670868) 12.20pm-12.30 Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (1422752) 1.55 A Country Practice (77647416) 2.20 Wish You Were Here..? (74522597) 2.50 Help Yourself (9439232) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7957771) 3.25-3.30 Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (6879400) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6056042) 6.55 Calendar / Network North (498787) 6.30-7.00 Enterprize 95 (955) 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (603955) 10.40 A Brush With Ashley (592874) 11.10-12.05pm Prisoner Cell Block H (643058) 1.05am Hit List (7711530) 2.35 The New Music (8467849) 3.35 The Chart Show (8064608) 4.30-5.30 Jobfinder (85920)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (78941) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (10752) 9.30 Ysgolion (871706) 12.00pm Right To Reply (28936) 12.30 Slot Meithrin (49752) 1.00 The Magic Roundabout (82058) 1.30 Alien Nations: Marseille (48023) 2.00 Don't Take It To Heart (984961) 3.40 Machinations: Vibrations (2939597) 3.55 Gardens Without Borders: Italy (5517955) 4.30 Board Stupid (752) 5.00 5 Pump (7125232) 5.15 5 Pump (6843684) 5.30 Countdown (232) 6.00 Newyddion (335400) 6.15 Heno (751313) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (9232) 7.30 Sgorio (39232) 8.30 Newyddion (4787) 9.00 Taro Naw (1435) 9.30 Roseanne (32416) 10.00 NYPD Blue (675918) 10.55 Channel 4 Racing - The Cheltenham Festival (372058) 11.30 Crush (462416)

Pearl in Seattle's oyster

ONE of the most popular ideas in music television in recent years is the "unplugged" format, where acts (apart from Bruce Springsteen) pull the plug on their electric guitars and perform an *acoustic set in front of a small* audience. Many of the recordings of these shows have stormed the charts, most recently *Nirvana: Unplugged in New York*, with the late lamented Kurt Cobain.

But before Kurt and co made for the studio, another of the celebrated grunge bands from the musical hotbed of Seattle had given their all. **Pearl Jam Unplugged** (MTV, 8.30pm) features the songs from the band's smash-hit debut album *Ten, including* "Alive", "Jeremy" and "Even Flow", with strong performances from lead singer Eddie Vedder (right) and bassist Geff Ament. And if the music is to your liking, check out the band's other albums, *Vs* and *Vitalogy*, the latter of which is among the most highly regarded releases of the past few months.

MONDAY MARCH 13

CHOICE: Playing the numbers; economics of science; Dodd on the spot; sexual double standards

Private life secrets of the consummate comic

Casinos, like courts of law, are normally out of bounds to the television camera. But the Gaming Board has relented to allow the director, Rob Rohrer, to penetrate the Clifton Casino at *Lytham St Annes* and observe the regulars at play in **Cutting Edge: Casino** (Channel 4, 9pm). Indeed, the film is much more about people than the finer points of poker and roulette. Rohrer has assembled a colourful cast, all of whom admit cheerfully to their addiction. The person to feel sorry for is Elaine, a gambling "widow" whose husband, Howard, often abandons her for a whole night, and sometimes two, and is planning a trip to Las Vegas without her. When she threatens divorce, he just laughs.

The message of **Horizon: The Betrayers** (BBC2, 8pm), Barbara Altounyan's eye-opening film, is that you should not believe everything you read in the learned journals. Doctors and scientists, it seems, are not above making *spurious claims for their research if* it will help to further their careers. As if the existence of fraud was not worrying enough, the programme reveals that unlike the United States and some Scandinavian countries, Britain has no independent body to investigate it.

Perhaps understandably, Ken Dodd is much happier talking about his professional career than his private life in **Face to Face: Ken Dodd** (BBC2, 11.15pm). He even refuses to tell Jeremy Isaacs his date of birth, or rather he tries to deflect the question with a string of jokes. This prompts an interesting line of speculation that Dodd the comedian *and Dodd the man are two* different people. We hear that Dodd still lives in the house where he was born, that he spends his money on books and that he regrets not having children. But that, in the domestic sphere, is about as far as he goes. What animates Dodd is making people laugh and everything else comes second.

Those who have followed **Ruling Passions: Sex, Race and Empire** (BBC2, 10pm) so far will be unsurprised by the latest revelations from the heyday of the British Empire. At their heart is our old friend, the sexual double standard. Black and Asian men were seen by their white *colonisers as potential rapists,* while at the same time the women of the subject races were considered fair game by British soldiers, whose sexual appetites were often brutally satisfied, with the perpetrators seldom brought to account.

PETER WAYMARK

Face to face with the real Ken Dodd (BBC2, 11.15pm)

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (23400)

7.00 Breakfast News (95202058)

9.05 Kilroy. Members of a studio audience discuss a topic of particular interest to them (s) (5353329)

10.00 News *(Ceefax), regional news and weather* (7668110) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8675313)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday family magazine (s) (7090077)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1433868) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Alan Titchmarsh (s) (7292481) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15905787)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (99348) **1.30 Neighbours** (Ceefax) (s) (77642961) **1.50 Going for Gold.** Henry Kelly introduces the final heat for the second quarter-final (s) (77653077)

***2.15 Knots Landing.** Mack is worried that Sumner* will try to take his daughter (s) (1368313) **3.00 Today's Gourmet** with Jacques Pepin (8313)

3.30 Droopy Double Bill (r) (2013503) **3.45 Bodger and Badger** (s) (2018058) **4.00 Jackanory.** Bill Paterson reads *Gozzle* by Ted Hughes (s) (4324329) **4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant** (Ceefax) (s) (6370787) **4.35 Tomorrow's End** (r). (Ceefax) (1561771)

5.00 Newsround (6848139) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (8985435)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (959416) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (435)

6.30 Regional news magazines (787) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 That's Showbusiness. Mike Smith is joined by Leah Bracknell, Tim Vincent, Mickey Hutton and Caroline Hook. (Ceefax) (s) (4874)

7.30 Watchdog. Consumer magazine presented by Anne Robinson. (Ceefax) (s) (771)

8.00 EastEnders. Steve is under financial pressure. (Ceefax) (s) (9042)

8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Time-travelling comedy starring Nicholas Lyndhurst and Michelle Holmes. (Ceefax) (s) (1077)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News *(Ceefax),* regional news and weather (2597)

9.30 Panorama. Another hard hitting investigation from the current affairs team (633771)

10.10 Sportsnight Special. Highlights of WBO heavyweight champion Herbie Hide's first defence against America's Riddick Bowe from the MGM Grand in Las Vegas (s) (254313) **Wales:** 10.10 A Parent's Guide (897923) 10.25 Face Off (793232) 11.00 Sportsnight Special (565226) 11.50 Film 95 with Barry Norman (669771) 12.20-1.50am FILM: Creatures the World Forgot (1883714)

11.00 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Among the *films reviewed are Little Women, Priest and Immortal Beloved.* (Ceefax). (s) (7042) **Northern Ireland:** The Back Page 11.25 Film 95 with Barry Norman 12.00-1.50am FILM: Patrick

11.30 FILM: Creatures the World Forgot (1971). Hammer horror yarn of stone-age rivalry between twin brothers. Starring Julie Ege, Tony Bonner and Robert John. Directed by Don Chaffey. (Teletext) (928961) ***12.55 Weather** (1620085)*

BBC2

6.20am Open University: East Meets West — *Asian Families, Western Culture (7212706)* **6.45** Lifestyles, Work and the Family (2630690) **7.35** Managing Schools (5951961)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and Signing) (6652771)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Sarah Baxter Today's guest is Transport Secretary Brian Mawhinney (s) (4040394)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Lernexpress (5321936) ***9.15** Teaching Today (931394)* ***9.45** Numbers* Plus (5406597) **10.00** Playdays (8766619) **10.25** Cats' Eyes (1896503) **10.40** Look and Read (4948139) **11.00** Zig Zag (6738665) **11.20** English Time (6375955) **11.40** Mad *About Music (4062503)* ***12.00** The Great New* Visionary Quest (18348) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (54684) **1.00** The IT Collection (57898597) **1.25** Landmarks Pakistan and its People (87592139) **1.45** Words and Pictures *(25238787)* ***2.00** Tales of Aesop (65887787)* **2.05** Rupert (87900955)

2.15 FILM: Rising Son (1990) starring Brian Dennehy and Piper Laurie. A father finds his son's indolence hard to bear. Directed by John David Coles. (Ceefax) (877752)

3.50 News (Ceefax), weather, regional news and weather (8857597)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (400)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Top chefs *create new* dishes from ingredients brought in by shoppers (s) (684)

5.00 Esther (s) (1400)

5.30 Catchword with Paul Cola (s) (936)

6.00 FILM: We Dive at Dawn (1943, b/w) starring Eric Portman and John Mills. During the Second World War a crew member of a British submarine is forced to masquerade as a *German when he disembarks on an enemy-*occupied Danish island in search of fuel and supplies. Directed by Anthony Asquith. (Ceefax) (58684)

7.30 Crufts 95 (s)(313)

8.00 CHOICE **Horizon: The Betrayers** (Ceefax) (s) (297706)

8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. *O is for Opulent Endings.* (Ceefax) (s) (613665)

9.00 Bottom starring *Rick Mayall and Adrian* Edmondson (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7969)

9.30 Game On: Bad Timing. A six-part comedy series about three flatmates who have lost the ability to enjoy themselves. (Ceefax) (47348)

10.00 CHOICE **Ruling Passions — Sex, Race and Empire: Black Peril.** (Ceefax) (s) (19077)

10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman. (Ceefax) *(972508)*

11.15 CHOICE **Face to Face: Ken Dodd** (s) (819684)

11.55 Weather (265868)

12.00 Body Social (4359917)

12.25am Creativity and Conceptual Design (2973882)

1.25 The Record (4500820). Ends at 1.50

2.00-3.40 Night School: Modern Languages (122882)

4.45 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (40325443) **5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture** (75998) **5.30 RCN Nursing Update** *(52882)*

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (44481)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3076597) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8670868)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place. Members of a studio audience air their views on a topical subject *With John Stapleton (s) (7878348)*

10.35 This Morning (26435619) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1422752)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2074435)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2986226) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57893042)

1.55 Capital Woman. A mother and daughter are given beauty tuition in the comfort of their own *home (s) (35836435)* ***2.25 A Country Practice*** (s) (74603416)

2.50 Blue Heelers (7114690) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (6950329) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6879400)

3.30 Rainbow (s) (2024619) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (8855139) **3.50 Scooby Doo** (s) (2396905) **4.15 Harry's Mad** (Teletext) (s) (282665) **4.45 Art Attack** with Neil Buchanan. (Teletext) (s) (1552023)

5.10 After 5 with Mary Nightingale (Teletext) (6056042)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (209058)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (606400)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (503)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (955)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers. Emma Forbes and Phillip Schofield's guests include comic Norman Collier and Catherine Zeta Jones (s) (1090)

7.30 Coronation Street. Gail's world comes tumbling down. (Teletext) (139)

8.00 Lucky Numbers with Shane Ritchie (4110)

8.30 World in Action. Current affairs. (Teletext) (s) (6145)

9.00 She's Out. The second episode in Lynda La Plante's new series following the fortunes of Dolly Rawlins. Dolly needs to cash in the diamonds if she is to realise her dream of setting up a children's home. With Anne Mitchell. (Teletext) (s) (7313)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (78413)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (603955)

10.40 Sport in Question. Jimmy Greaves and Ian St John's guests include Brian Moore and Frances Edmonds (s) (787706)

11.40 The Equalizer (553226)

12.45am Endsleigh League Extra (4657288)

***1.30 Sport AM** (3971004)*

2.25 Quiz Night. The Butcher's Arms from Merseyside take on the Prince of Wales from Salford (7446207)

2.55 FILM: Queen of Diamonds (1971) starring Claudia Cardinale and Stanley Baker. When a *femme fatale* outwits her partner in crime, he joins forces with a police inspector in a bid to track her down. Directed by Jean Herman (5767733)

4.25 On the Live Side (s) (33449707)

4.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (76580240)

4.55 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (7682795)

5.30 ITN Morning News (58608). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Sandokan (r) (2079706)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (78941)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s)

9.30 Schools Video Penpals (5374868) **9.45** Delve into Literature (5460619) **10.02** Stage *Two Science (6003503)* ***10.20** Place and* People: New Zealand (1700752) **10.40** The English Programme (4132413) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (6801706) **11.15** The Music Show: Silence (6452058) **11.30** *Rat-a-Tat-Tat. Hot Hippo (4077435)* **11.45** Junior Technology (4065690)

12.00 Right to Reply (Teletext) (r) (s) (28936)

12.30pm Sesame Street. Siskel and Ebert star with AM and the number 12. (14955)

1.30 Little Miss followed by **Paddington, Frootie Tootles** and **The Wombles** (35826058)

1.55 The Pulse (Teletext) (r) (s) (35834077)

2.25 Travels A La Carte: Norway. Sophie Grigson and William Black are in the Lofoten Islands, where they learn to make fishcakes. (Teletext) (r) (s) (5511597)

3.00 The Late Late Show. Topical chat from Dublin with Gay Byrne. (s) (4144023)

3.55 Gardens Without Borders: Italy (r) (Teletext) (s) (5517955)

4.30 Countdown presented by Richard Whiteley (Teletext) (s) (752)

5.00 The Golden Girls: Sophia's Choice. Sophia visits an old friend. (Teletext) (r) (3868)

5.30 Nurses: Kind, Konsiderate Kare. Annie refuses to compromise on patient care (r). (Teletext) (s) (232)

6.00 The Cosby Show: Eat, Drink and be Wary (r). (Teletext) (145)

6.30 Hangin' With Mr Cooper. Mark introduces Geneva to a teacher. (Teletext) (s) (597)

7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (Teletext) (115526)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' opinions (857232)

8.00 Quetzal Cloud Forest. The Chiapas region of *southern Mexico is one of the few places* where virgin cloud forest still exists. Cameraman John Harris spent eight months there tracking wildlife, including the Resplendent Quetzal, a brightly coloured bird *revered as a god by the Aztecs. (Teletext)* (2752)

8.30 Only When I Laugh: Conduct Unbecoming. Hospital comedy (r). (Teletext) (4787)

9.00 CHOICE **Cutting Edge: Casino** (Teletext) (s) (5955)

10.00 NYPD Blue: You Bet Your Life. A man who planned a pawn shop robbery claims his former cellmate committed the crime. *(Teletext) (s) (675918)*

10.55 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Brough Scott reports from the Cotswold course, previewing the premier jump racing series. (s) (372058)

11.30 FILM: Crush (1992). Drama set in the Australian hot springs town of Rotarua, where an American woman insinuates herself into the lives of a famous writer and his daughter. Directed by Alison Maclean. (Teletext) (462416)

1.25am FILM: In Caliente (1935, b/w). A musical starring Dolores Del Rio and Pat O'Brien. Directed by Lloyd Bacon. Ends at 3.00. (387207)

هكذا من الاصل

PROPERTY

Make your country cottage earn its keep

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PLUS: Properties for sale, page 13

BOOKS

Lynne Truss on mothers, by daughters

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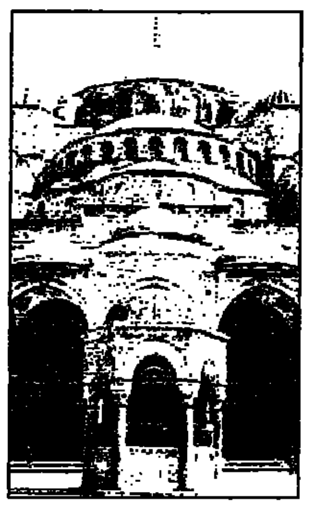
PLUS: A Balkan intrigue, page 14

TRAVEL



Baths and bazaars in colourful Istanbul

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PLUS: Reid's welcomes children, page 18

GARDENING

An English country garden blooms in France

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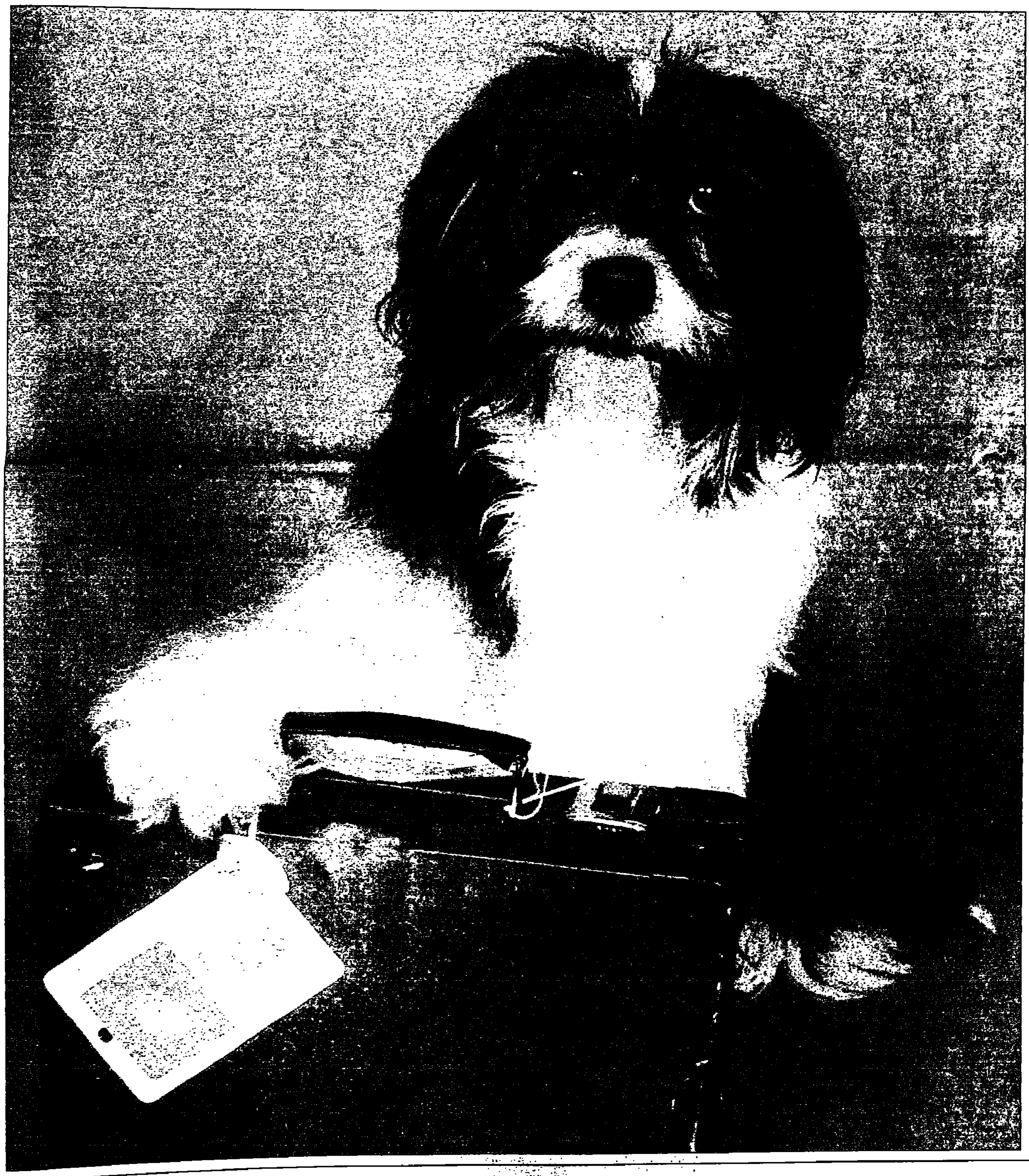
PLUS: Reviving a soggy lawn, page 8

WEEKEND

ROVER'S GOOD HOTEL GUIDE



By Stewart Tendler

Alongside the four-day supply of individually wrapped gourmet chicken dinners flavoured with tripe, we took two towels, two blankets, one bowl, one lead, one feather cushion and 2lb of home-made rock-hard ginger biscuits — every dog has his price. And Bertie, our five-year-old golden retriever was crucial to a holiday project — testing one of the inns listed in the pet-world's version of the ultimate hotel guide: *Pets Welcome*.

This most British of paperbacks has just been reissued and updated, for the thirty-fourth time. It is a guide to 1,000 hotels across the country where guests are encouraged to bring their pets, and it sells 50,000 copies a year. Appealing, smug pooches (dogs, it seems, are the main target for this market) stare out from the advertisements, and entries list crucial information for pet lovers such as availability of walks, champagne breaks (presumably for the owner rather than the pet, but who knows?), "rabbits everywhere", "trees galore" and the information that "pets are people". At the back, the guide also lists pet-friendly pubs, which proudly mention regulars such as Flippy, partial to biscuits and coffee, and Willow, who catches beer mats.

Bertie is keen on catching — and shredding — tissues. We gave high-flying Willow and his pub a wide berth, and booked in to the Stag Hunters Hotel at Brendon on the edge of Exmoor. The woman on the telephone was adamant that dogs were more than welcome — after all, they had four of their own. But this, surely, was the very crux of the problem with any pet friendly hotel — if the hotel owners were pet friendly, they would have pets … rivals to those of the guests. We prayed they were nice, little dogs. Please O Lord, none of Bertie's enemies. No boxers, staffordshires or alsatians.

Children do not, as a rule, set about their peers in adult company. Dogs have no such inhibitions. We knew we should have asked what dogs they had. We just did not have the courage. They might think Bertie was a fighter. He is not. He is just a little standoffish, and he gets himself into trouble. There is too much testosterone swilling around. One of these days he is going to have to have The Operation. *Sans* balls, *sans* troubles.

The dog hairs on the settee by reception were a welcome sight, far more so than the pristine furniture that greets guests in regular hotels. A chocolate and white springer spaniel called Ross inspected us from a distance. Bertie prickled. "Just tell him to go away if he's a nuisance," Glen Phillips, one of the owners, said. The spaniel went.

The house rules were simple. No animals in the dining room. Everywhere else was in bounds. Letting dogs loose in the paddock with the pony was at the owner's risk. The pony hated dogs and liked to chase them. Owners could let themselves out early in the morning to exercise their dogs. If they could not bear to, or dare to, leave their animals alone they could eat at a table laid for them in one of the bars.

So much for all this trendy business with child-friendly hotels: no one gave our 11-year-old daughter a second thought other than to put up an extra bed in our room for her.

Here the emphasis was on *creature* comforts. To be on the safe side, the hotel said, it would give us the room with the biggest bathroom: other guests had kept their small dogs there in cages. Once in the bedroom, our dog inspected the arrange-

Continued on page 3, col 1

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CHOICE

Planning an evening out, or a day with your family? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

ROCK

David Sinclair

THE PRODIGY: The sinister promo video for the Prodigy's new single, *Poison*, has to be seen to be believed. "I got the poison," yells one voice; "I've got the remedy," shouts another, in an increasingly breathless tussle underpinned by an insistent hip hop drum beat and modish didgeridoo drone. Still in the vanguard of acts to emerge from the rave generation, the group, led by keyboard operative Liam Howlett, continues its incursion into the mainstream which began last year with the release of their chart-topping and Mercury Music Prize shortlisted album, *Music For The Jilted Generation*.
Manchester Apollo ♿ (0161-242 2560), Mar 17, 7.30pm; **De Montfort Hall**, Leicester (0116 2333111), Mar 18, 7.30pm; **Mayfair**, Newcastle (0191-232 3109), Mar 20, 9pm-2am; **Town and Country**, Leeds ♿ (0113 2800100), Mar 21, 9pm-2am; **Cardiff University** (01222 230130), Mar 22, 8pm-1am; **Brighton Centre** ♿ (01273 202881), Mar 24, 9pm-2am; **Brixton Academy**, London SW9 ♿ (0171-734 8932), Mar 25, 9pm-6am.

BARRY WHITE: Accompanied by his Love Unlimited Orchestra, *Barry White is back to extract* further mileage from *The Icon Is Love*, the album released without fanfare in 1993, which has become the romantic soul man's most successful since his heyday in the mid-1970s. Like the album, White's show is one long seduction routine, designed to make the ladies go weak at the knees while prompting their menfolk to ponder exactly what this overweight lothario has that they do not.
Wembley Arena, Middlesex ♿ (0181-900 1234), Mar 14; **Bournemouth International Centre** ♿ (01202 297297), Mar 15; **Cardiff International Arena** ♿ (01222 230130), Mar 16; **Manchester Apollo** ♿ (0161-242 2560), Mar 18; **Newcastle City Hall** (0191-261 2606), Mar 19; **Sheffield City Hall** ♿ (0114 2735295), Mar 20; **NEC**, Birmingham ♿ (0121-780 4133), Apr 17; all shows 7.30pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

LIGETI AT THE RAM: The Royal Academy of Music's annual festival devoted to one present-day composer has become one of the most important events on the London music calendar. This year the subject is the avant-garde master György Ligeti, who will be present to hear more than 30 of his works, some new to London, performed in four days of intense music-making titled (with a nod towards Ligeti's obsession with paradoxes) *Ligeti Through the Looking Glass*. The composer will also be interviewed, and there will be screenings of the BBC's 1991 award-winning documentary, *All Clouds are Clocks*.
Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (0171-873 7373), Tue 14 to Fri 17, daytime and evening events.

WAR REQUIEM: Not to be outshone, another great London music conservatoire, the Guildhall School of Music, mounts a vast event in St Paul's Cathedral. It is a performance of Britten's *War Requiem*, written for the rebuilt Coventry Cathedral in 1962 and ingeniously interleaving the Latin Mass for the Dead with poems by Wilfred Owen. Richard Hickox conducts Guildhall forces and the choristers from St Paul's.
St Paul's Cathedral (tickets from Barbican box office, 0171-638 8891), Tues 14, 7.30pm.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

NAT ADDERLEY/LEE KONITZ: Almost exactly 20 years after the premature death of his funky, saxophone-toting brother, Julian "Cannonball" Adderley, Nat Adderley is still out there spreading the hard-bop gospel. One of the few contemporary musicians to remain faithful to the old-fashioned cornet, Adderley delivers sermons that are every bit as fervent as those of his brother. His most recent bands have also benefitted from the torrential alto sax solos of Vincent Herring and the immaculate time-keeping of drummer Jimmy Cobb. A more cerebral improviser, Lee Konitz, hits Camden Town earlier in the week. Always fondly remembered for his contribution to another Miles Davis project, *The Birth of the Cool*, Konitz unfurls long, angular lines which have little use for standard bop licks.
Jazz Café, Parkway, London NW1 (0171-916 6000): ***Konitz*** — Thur 16; ***Adderley*** — Fri 17, Sat 18. ♿

GARY MEEK/MARION MONTGOMERY: Members of Airto Moreira's and Flora Purim's fusion band Fourth World seem to have taken up permanent residence in Soho this past year. The latest visitor is the group's multi-faceted saxophonist Gary Meek, who has now launched himself into a solo career. His latest album, *Time One*, appears to be partly aimed at breaking into the lucrative Kenny G market with a nod in the direction of world music. Marion Montgomery occupies the support slot this week. That, as anybody who has heard her will know, is a guarantee of sophisticated show tunes spiced with nostalgia for sunlit days in Natchez.
Ronnie Scott's, Frith St, London W1 (0171-439 0747), Mon to Sat.

Rave favourites the Prodigy's new single is *Poison*; a raucous blend of shouting match, hip hop drum beat and didgeridoo drone

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

SALOME: Maybe Oscar Wilde would have something to say about yet another new production at Covent Garden of Strauss's setting of his macabre *jeu d'esprit*, with Peter Hall's excellent version barely cold in its cistern — not so much carelessness as overindulgence. In fact it is more like opportunism: Luc Bondy's staging was the sensation of the Salzburg Festival three years ago, and the Garden snapped it up lock, stock and barrel. The sensation was not so much Bondy's perhaps over-earnest production as the sexual electricity generated between Catherine Malfitano's vocally radiant Salome and Bryn Terfel's great bear of a Baptist. And here they are again, under the baton of Christoph von Dohnányi.
Royal Opera House, Bow St, London WC2 (0171-304 4000), tonight, 7pm; Wed 15, 8pm. ♿

LES MAMELLES DE TIRESIAS: If a funnier opera has been written this century, then I have yet to meet it: this is the one about the wife whose *mamelles* float away in the form of party balloons, who grows a beard and moustache, and leaves her husband to do the child-bearing (he manages 4,049 in a day). Poulenc sets Apollinaire's surrealist farce of 1917 to a dazzling series of music hall waltzes and polkas whose coruscating wit carries the gender-bending action to an unanswerable final message — never mind the details, just make love. Friday's performance is part of Simon Rattle's *Towards the Millennium* series, and stars Barbara Bonney and Philip Langridge.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), Fri 17, 7.45pm. ♿

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

SIGMAR POLKE: Widely regarded as the leading German painter of today, Sigmar Polke has never been given a retrospective survey in Britain. So the Tate Gallery Liverpool should be congratulated on its initiative, bringing together an impressive selection of work from most phases of his multi-faceted career. Polke first attracted attention in the early 1960s when he founded Capitalist Realism with his friend Gerhard Richter. But his links with Pop Art were soon replaced by other interests. Polke has always distanced himself from modern movements, and pokes fun at avant-garde styles in some of his work. In the 1980s, though, his mood darkened as he began to explore Germany's own troubled past. Having lost his faith in painting during the 1970s he has returned to it with renewed energy and flair in recent years.
Tate Gallery Liverpool, Albert Docks (0151-709 3223), until Apr 17.

FRANK DOBSON: For many years, the brooding colossus of Henry Moore's fame eclipsed the reputation of other British sculptors. Frank Dobson has suffered from neglect, but now his work of the inter-war years can be seen as an impressive contribution to 20th-century British sculpture.
Courtauld Institute London WC2 (0171-873 2526), until Apr 17. ♿

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

GILES — A CARTOONIST GOES TO WAR: The National Museum of Cartoon Art has relocated, and continues to expand its activities. The first show in the new premises has already been seen in Brussels and will afterwards travel to Rotterdam for the Dutch Liberation celebrations. Despite this, it is devoted to an artist as local — even, one would have thought, parochial — as Giles. Unlike the touring show organised by the Cartoon Trust and at present in Ipswich, which chronicles 50 years of Giles's dreadful family, this concentrates on the years during which Giles was a war correspondent covering the liberation of the low countries.
National Museum of Cartoon Art, Baird House, 15-17 St Cross Street, London EC1 (0171-405 4717). Mon-Fri, noon-6pm, until Apr 4.

ROBERT BROUGH: When Brough died in 1905 he was only 33, but he had already achieved considerable success as a portrait painter. His work was more or less in the Sargent tradition but, suitably enough for a Scot, illuminated by more brilliant colour. This makes sense when one remembers that Brough studied and worked in Paris, where he shared a studio with the leading Scottish colourist S. J. Peploe, and that he was also fascinated by Brittany, where he may have known Gauguin and certainly developed a distinctively Gauguin-esque style of vibrant colours and flattened perspective.
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen (01224 646333). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm (Thur to 8pm); Sun, 2-5pm, until Mar 25.

FILMS

Geoff Brown

DISCLOSURE (18): Best not to ponder too hard on the characters or plot in this version of Michael Crichton's cheeky novel about sexual harassment in the workplace. If you do, the film disintegrates. So just go with the flow, and watch Michael Douglas say no 31 times as his new boss Demi Moore behaves like a sexual tornado. Director Barry Levinson does a smooth but impersonal job.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891); **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031); **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705); **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501); ***Screen/Baker St*** (0171-935 2772); **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332); **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343).

MRS PARKER AND THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (15): Dorothy Parker, acid poetess and fount of a thousand quips, is resurrected in a fascinating film poised between the conventional screen biography and the mosaics of romantic fancy usually associated with director Alan Rudolph. Much of Parker's life is missing; but Rudolph well captures the follies of the 1920s and the *badinage* of wits gathered at the Hotel Algonquin's Round Table. Using a voice too strangulated for comfort, Jennifer Jason Leigh still gives a powerful performance; and Campbell Scott is agreeable as Robert Benchley, whose platonic friendship with Parker gives this luxurious film its aching heart.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742); **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720); **Renoir** (0171-837 8402); **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

● *More films, page 6.*

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

INDIAN INK: Felicity Kendal, never the most astringent of actresses, may not be quite your idea of a bold, blunt young poet; but the play whose centre she is represents Tom Stoppard at his most intelligently humane. Jumping effortlessly across the decades, Stoppard looks at the contradictions of colonialism and the British Raj, culture and language, simultaneously telling a touching tale of a precocious life cut short.
The Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, London WC2 (0171-836 6404). Evenings, Mon to Sat at 7.30pm; matinées: Wed and Sat at 3pm.

ARCADIA: Do not forget this in the ado about *Indian Ink*. After all, who could concoct an accessible, gripping play out of landscape gardening, sex, chaos theory, iterated algorithms, hermits, scholarship, Byron and the collapse of classicism and Newtonian order? Tom Stoppard, that's who, here writing at the very peak of his form.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London SW1 (0171-930 8800). Evenings at 7.30pm; matinées: Wed and Sat at 2.30pm..

● *More theatre, page 6.*

DANCE

John Percival

MARK MORRIS: A hot favourite at the Edinburgh Festival, where he built up a following over three successive years, this unusual and often provocative American choreographer brings his company for its first English tour, opening this week. The programme includes Morris's own Gershwin solo and a ballet to Brahms's *New Love Song Waltzes*, besides the popular *Grand Duo* and the British premiere of *Going Away Party* to country and western music.
New Victoria Theatre, Woking ♿ (01483 761144) Mar 16 to Mar 18; **Marlowe Theatre**, Canterbury ♿ (01227 787787) Mar 21, 22; **Snape Maltings**, Aldeburgh ♿ (01728 453543) Mar 24, 25; **Theatre Royal**, Newcastle ♿ (0191-232 2061) Mar 28, 29; **Grand Theatre**, Blackpool ♿ (01253 28372) Mar 31, Apr 1; **Repertory Theatre**, Birmingham ♿ (0121-236 4455), Apr 4, 5.

WOKING DANCE UMBRELLA: Lucky Woking. A dozen other companies besides Morris's are appearing in a three-week dance festival as part of the town's centenary celebrations. Another scoop is the only southern visit of Scottish Ballet's new production of *Swan Lake*: there are free open-air events besides the professional shows in several halls.
Peacocks Arts and Entertainments Centre and other venues in Woking, Mar 16 to Apr 2; full details from the box office (01483 761144).

CHILDREN

LONDON

Grimaldi, King of Clowns: Laugh along with Clown Joey, the puppet who gets up to all sorts of antics.
Little Angel Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street N1 (0171-226 1787). Today at 11am and 3pm (early performances suitable for four and five-year-olds; afternoons for six-year-olds upwards). Adults £6.50, children £5. ♿

Rumpelstiltskin: The traditional fairy-tale presented by Stop the Clock theatre company. Suitable for four to nine-year-olds.
Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill SW11 (0171-223 2223). Today, 2.30pm. Adults £3.50, children £1.75.

A Christmas Carol: Last day to see John Morrimer's adaptation of Charles Dickens's play.
Barbican Theatre, Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today at 2pm and 7.15pm. Adults from £8, children half-price for every adult..

AVON

Open Cockpit Day: Clamber into a helicopter and learn how the controls work without leaving the ground.
International Helicopter Museum, Lockingmoor Road, Weston Super Mare (01934 635227). Tomorrow from 10am-4pm. Adults £3, children £2. ♿

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Help To Build an Iron Age Farm and see how it would have worked with the help of Watch, the junior branch of the Wildlife Trust. Fives and over.
Visitor Centre, Hinchingbrooke Country Park, Brampton, Huntingdon (01480 451568). Today, 10.30am. Admission free. ♿

HAMPSHIRE

The Man Whose Mother Was a Pirate: Imaginative puppet show with music, presented by Rhythm Tree Theatre. Suitable for four to nine-year-olds.
The Tower, Romsay Road, Winchester (01962 867986). Tomorrow at 2pm. Adults £4, children £3, family of four £12. ♿

NORFOLK

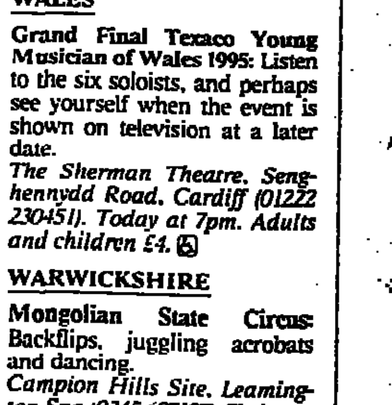
The Emperor's New Clothes: Hans Christian Andersen's story is a lesson for us all to speak our mind.
Norwich Puppet Theatre, St James, Whitefriars, Norwich (01603 615564). Today at 2.30pm. Adults, children £3.50.

SCOTLAND

Step Back to Biblical Times by dressing up in tunics, grinding flour and weaving cloth at this fascinating hands-on museum, housed in a church.
Jonah's Journey, Rosemount Place, Aberdeen (01224 647614). Mon to Fri, 10am to noon. Admission: Adult £1.50, child £3, family £5.

SOUTH HUMBERSIDE

Lambing Weekend: A chance to see lambs being born (about 30 expected births a day) and a chance to touch them.
Elsham Hall Country and Wildlife Park, Elsham, Brigg (01652 688698). Tomorrow from 11am-5pm. Adults £3.95, children £2.50, under threes free. ♿



Flock to see newborn lambs

WALES

Grand Final Texaco Young Musician of Wales 1995: Listen to the six soloists, and perhaps see yourself when the event is shown on television at a later date.
The Sherman Theatre, Senghennydd Road, Cardiff (01222 230451). Today at 7pm. Adults and children £4. ♿

WARWICKSHIRE

Mongolian State Circus: Backflips, juggling acrobats and dancing.
Campion Hills Site, Leamington Spa (0345 697127). Today at 2.30pm and 5.30pm. Adults £5, children £4. ♿

WEST MIDLANDS

Talking Through Your Hat is the catchy title for this new exhibition on how the Victorians lived.
Wolverhampton Art Gallery and Museum, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton (01902 312032). Today from 10am-5pm and every day (except Sunday) until April 23. Free. ♿

JANE BIDDER

In west London, **Alan Franks** hears an emotive homily on the importance of words

AT YOUR SERVICE

I WENT TO the Church of St Francis of Assisi in Notting Hill, west London, to assess the business of preaching, and found a preacher who was assessing the business of words. They are our common stock-in-trade, and I suppose it served me right that in trying to take stock of his trade I was forced to do the same with my own.

The irony went further than this. After the Sunday morning Mass the parish priest, Father Oliver McTernan, told me how sensitive he was to the dangers of seeming to address a particular individual in the congregation when he was in fact trying to make himself relevant to all.

There was more. The gospel reading was from Luke — chapter six, verses 39 to 45 — which contains a critics' caution if ever I heard one: "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?" Point taken, but shelved for the moment.

I lit on Father McTernan for a number of reasons. First, he had recommendations from both John Gummer in his *Times* article on contemporary preachers last October and from our religion correspondent, Ruth Gledhill. If success speaks for itself, then his is positively oratorical, with a Sunday attendance that has increased fourfold since his arrival 14 years ago. Finally, he propounds a strongly social Gospel: since I came as an agnostic, with my ecclesiastical naivety intact, I was half-hoping for the familiar language of secular concern. I believe this is a scarlet case of doing the right thing for the wrong reasons.

"What we observe going on impresses us more than what we hear," he said. "But our readings today remind us that we must not overlook the importance of words. We know how easy it is to be impressed by a smooth talker, and yet Ecclesiastes tells us that in the end our use of words will unmask the inner self." What followed was a plain, lucid homily in which he moved without artifice from the necessity of treating our words with care and respect to the need for doing the same with our fellow humans. Use neither loosely, was the message.

I was expecting him to progress to the corollary, that if we treat words and people as they deserve, then they will do the same for us. But he had in mind nothing quite so obvious or self-serving. "The only test we have of where we stand in our relationship with God is by truthfully examining our relationships with others." I found this extraordinarily reassuring, and I am still trying to articulate my reasons. I think it is that I welcome the fairness and the symmetry of that vision: if Man is a conduit through which God works, then he can also be a conduit through which Man works. If he is good enough for God, he is good enough for himself.

There was an exhilarating passage about St John Chrysostom, the fourth-century patriarch of Constantinople who, Father McTernan reminded us, was known as the man with the golden tongue. The essence of it was that God too has words, and that only by allowing them to take deep root within us can the eucharist become a moment of growth in our lives.

And so to Lent, and that vital paradox of abstinence as a stimulant to such growth. "Giving up the loose use of words," he concluded, "giving up using them as a mask that hides our selves, giving up making them a cross for others to bear . . . that's a deeper challenge than giving up wine or cigarettes or whatever." Hear, hear. Cigarettes and wine I've done. But words. I'm trying, I'm trying. But it's not easy, Lord.

JAMES MORGAN

Father Oliver McTernan greets Sunday morning worshippers

When I say that I appreciated the humanity of this homily, I am referring to scale as much as to substance. Father McTernan was intimate without being invasive. He was not afraid to emote. He was miked up and syllable-clear. And I knew we were with a pro when he ad-libbed about the mobile phones that kept chirping like an aviary: "Please, I keep thinking it's Him on the hotline telling me I'm talking rubbish." It surprised me that he should be speaking not from the pulpit but from deep into the aisle. In a welcome way it took the mystery from the ministry, which is in itself quite an act of separation when you consider the entwined histories of those two particular words. And I believe that I heard doubt similarly meshed with conviction in his soft Irish voice. Surely there has to be some of that if the language, as distinct from the individual words, is to enter us. So it has been from Herbert to Hopkins.

Immediately afterwards on the road outside, two cars shunted with an expressive crunch, followed by a fantastic four-letter litany. "Now *there's* words being abused," said Father McTernan with vigorous relevance. If I didn't know better, I could have sworn he had set it up.

Sunday morning Mass (8am, 10am, 11.30am) Church of St Francis of Assisi, Pottery Lane, Notting Hill, London, W11 4NQ (0171-727 7968).

● *Ruth Gledhill is on holiday.*

مكبرة من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Continued from page 1

ments with keen interest and looked up suspiciously, growling, at a noise in an adjoining room. This is the dog that spent an entire night barking at a camper in an adjoining tent who kept sneezing.

The bathroom carpet was cream-coloured. No Bertie in there. In the bedroom the carpets were a much safer grey. He liked the look of the comfortable armchair and the three beds, and wanted to make them his own.

And so to dinner. The difficulty with dogs is that they show you up. All the failings, the easy-pampering, the lack of discipline, is suddenly on display. Owners are like the parents of difficult children. These offspring do not throw food, scream, have tantrums and say embarrassing things in front of complete strangers. Instead they strain at the leash after scraps or mutter loudly under the table when they see a pile of titbits going into the kitchen on a finished plate.

We are dealing here with a creature that remains at the mental level of a small child for much of its life, and then suddenly collapses into old age. Whatever doting owners say about their animals they are never going to learn to read, split an atom or hold a reasonable conversation on the Major Government. However, like small children, they know what they like and when they see it they want it.

As we settled to eat in the bar, Mr Phillips offered Bertie a nice oat-coloured bone-shaped biscuit. He has seen them before. Big deal. The steak on my daughter's plate was what he called food. In the background the male spaniel, Ross, lay by the fire ill at ease.

The female, a one-year-old called Indra, bounced straight into the room and threw herself at Bertie without any sense of shame. Rolling on her back she looked up at him with appealing eyes. Bertie, accustomed to being dragged off unwilling females — and a few males in moments of confusion — could not believe his luck. The entire table shifted, cutlery tinkled and plates trembled as love blossomed.

Such relationships between our dog and the permanent residents became a feature of the stay. Ross would sometimes sit on the stairs barring our passage until he was dragged out of the way. The female, Indra, would leap a 12-bar gate to get to us. In the bar the pair went back and forth nosing aside swing doors and eyeing Bertie balefully. The male's enforced sufferance shone from his eyes as he headed past at a distance. The female looked pained, rejected but ever hopeful.

A shy, sleek, young black labrador called Sam peeked around and kept his distance, and a noble Briard, a large French breed, called Leah would saunter in. The shaggy, oat-coloured lady was Boss of Bosses within the hotel. Bertie snored quietly as she passed on the other side of the bar and we breathed a sigh.

At night our dog retreated to his blanket with bad grace after trying to reach the beds. The first night he got up, saw us asleep and obviously began wagging his tail. The crockery set out for morning tea crashed to the floor. The second night he rose crossly and threw himself down on the other side of the room with a thud that shook the beds. Any sign of life and he thrust his wet nose into the face of the waking victim.

Apart from the house dogs, there were no other guests with pets but the hotel has found its policy effective in attracting business. Mr Phillips said they had reasoned that a family hotel should mean all the family including the pets. Five owners brought their dogs for Christmas, and, at times, all 18 rooms are taken by guests with dogs. Trouble, said the staff, was rare. Owners are considerate about their rooms. Pressed for embarrassing or difficult moments, Mr Phillips and his staff could only muster a Newfoundland who pulled its owner off a bar stool after a contretemps between two dogs. The dogs settled down. It was the owners who came close to blows.

Hotels pay up to £400 for inclusion in *Pets Welcome*. The entries offer an eclectic variety of come-ons for pet owners: staff to relieve owners of "walkies"; the provision of signs to place outside the door announcing "Dog in room — please enter" or "Dog in room — do not enter" with a picture of a ferocious dog. Some hotels charge a small fee for pets, others charge nothing — for the dogs, at least. One hotel, White Topps in Bournemouth, will not accept a booking unless at least one dog is

Packed and ready to roll . . . Bertie and his luggage settled in the back of the car. On his list of essentials were 2lb of home-made ginger biscuits

And the family came too . . . the Tendlers squeeze in

included in the party. One woman turned up with 15. "Dogs who come here know they are welcome," said the hotel owner Marjorie Titchen, who has six dogs of her own.

Perhaps, one day, we will see a Michelin-style guide that musters a corps of trained undercover investigators and their pets to test hotel facilities. The guide could initiate symbols for "Serpents accepted", "No rats" or "Large mammals a *speciality*". A top-rated establishment would have a gerbil recovery service for the one that got out of the cage; or a turn-down service which includes a Boneo on the pillow. There is little doubt the business is there.

There are 6.9 million dogs in Britain, and every year their 5.6 million owners take holidays. Like other pet owners they are riven by the question of what to do with their animals. The one million tropical fish owners, 3.4 million goldfish lovers and 1.7 million budgie, parrot and canary devotees have little choice. Driving up the M1 with a macaw or a couple of fighting fish in the boot is not advisable.

For the 5.6 million cat owners and their doggy friends decision brings neurosis. You can stay at home. The animal can be left with a tolerant neighbour. It can be boarded. Or, of course, you can take the pet with you. All these things we have done.

Faced with 70lb of free-ranging dog in the back of the car, we exchanged a small family saloon for a semi-estate. The extra space plus the trailer would easily hold the dog, the luggage and our tent. We bought the tent because so few places take dogs. Not that the dog was grateful for the investment. Exiled to the outer section of the tent each night, he unzipped the flap with his nose and slipped into the sleeping quarters at 3am.

Tired of tents, and planning to go abroad, we eventually found a wonderful neighbour who dotes on Bertie. It was just as well. By then we had suffered the agonies of kennels. The anguish caused by even the best kennel establishment is no different from watching a child go away on holiday for the first time. Was it the right kennel? Was it a good kennel? Would he be lonely? Would he pine? Would he go off his food? Telephone numbers were left.

You may be taking the holiday of a lifetime across the Sahara by camel, but the Legion outpost at Sidi-Beel-Zebbub will know where to find you. You return and he is intact, slimmer and sullen. The kennel owners seem a little peeved. What do they mean its time the dog had some discipline? How dare they?

You can criticise a man, never his dog. Owner and dog are subsumed into each other: "Oh, you know Misty. She's the man with the wooden leg, the Polish war record and a green extension lead." Living so closely identified, it is hardly surprising if owners prove wholly partial, just like parents ever ready to defend their offspring. The dog may slaver at the sight of a postman's leg but to the owner he's "a little frisky sometimes". The question of whether a bitch is on heat has led to blows.

If dogs cause conflict in a quiet country hotel bar just think about the effect they have on stress-ridden urban life. Many a man's macho is bound up with that of his dog. Whole parks have divided on whether a dog is or is not a pitbull and who should confront its owner. When did a toddler last empty a play area or a three-year-old do such things that the world trembled? Yet parks grow silent at an approaching alsatian with a character problem.

Guidebooks for doggy holidays may come as a shock to those parents who wonder, half seriously, why they never settled for the easy life of dog-lover. Perhaps they think there is some sepia-coloured paradise that is forever child-proof: a place called Muttland where loving, adventure-seeking couples swing through sun-dappled woods or roam over high downs accompanied by their faithful hound. Disciplined and intelligent, it needs no babysitter; it eats what it is given and never interrupts.

Furthermore, in Muttland the only toy required is a well-chewed tennis ball. Videos, even of *Lassie*, are unnecessary. And it is so cheap. No school costs, new clothes, or expensive holidays. Actually it may be no holidays at all.

Of course in Muttland the hounds never leave home, and when they get sick, house calls are rare and hospital treatment unlikely. Social service departments do not arrange special breaks to give owners relief from their pets. Perhaps they should.

If a special guide is needed to chose a holiday why do we keep these beasts? For company certainly: some owners end up preferring their pets to their spouses. Perhaps for good health: stroke your dog and your blood pressure goes down. Dog owners are said to live longer because they get more exercise, and their pets are good for releasing stress. Psychiatrists point to the therapeutic effects of animals on the mentally ill, and to the benefits for the elderly.

When a dog mazagine asked women readers whether they preferred dogs to men the answers were interesting. It seems that 94 per cent of women would prefer to stroke a rottweiler than to stroke John Major; and 76 per cent preferred a pit bull terrier to the Prince of Wales.

Dr Roger Mugford, a psychologist who specialises in treating animal behaviour problems, points out that ancient graves and cave drawings show that Man has been keeping pets for 14,000 years.

"Pets are never judgemental, the perfect therapist. Whatever you say they agree with you. They are non-threatening," Dr Mugford says.

As an owner of six dogs, Dr Mugford, who is mourning the recent death of a pet goat called Trevor, maintains that pets are an extension of the human family, and part of the way children learn to develop relationships. Indeed market research shows that 56 per cent of British households, 12 million homes, have pets, and that children are the main motivation for having them in the first place.

With talk now about easing the quarantine restrictions, and with a world of French auberges and Italian loggia beckoning, we, the British, have a great deal to learn about pet-friendliness: the French have ten million dogs for a population similar to our own and they often let them into restaurants. Belgium, the Netherlands, the Irish Republic and Denmark all have considerable numbers of dogs.

To the uninitiated, arranging your holiday around the needs of your pet may seem a curious way to spend hard-earned spare time. But don't forget this nation's fantastic investment in pets: over £2 billion a year on pet food and care. Medical and insurance costs came to £675 million in 1992. Another £220 million went on kennel fees, often to allow owners to take holidays. And in the United States pet lovers spent £3.1 billion on dog food and £2.1 billion on cat food in 1993.

A book on the social world of dogs, *The Hidden Life of Dogs* by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas (Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £9.99), has sold more than 250,000 copies in Britain and the United States. I am not surprised. As a petless young man I once met an American lawyer who kept a herd of llamas as pets. Each night, with a drink in his hand, he relaxed watching the little group amble towards him in the paddock outside his home. President Reagan thought his advice on penalising criminals was first class and his personal tastes irrelevent. I thought he was barmy. These days I tend to be more tolerant.

● Pets Welcome 1995 *is published by FHG Publications (£3.99).*

Something for the pet with everything, page 11

Cover photograph: REX FEATURES
Feature photographs: MARK HARRISON

A joyful canine reunion

Michael Kallenbach

calls for quarantine regulations to be scrapped

For half a year I had waited. "Dogs released" I had noted on the due day in my diary, although I hardly needed a reminder. The two miniature schnauzers, locked away in a cage for six months to comply with Britain's outdated quarantine regulations, were at last to be released.

I had planned the reunion for weeks. I would take time off work so that we could all "bond" together again.

Not surprisingly, I could hardly sleep the night before I was to pick them up from the kennels. Their toys were neatly laid out in the living room and, as a special treat, I had ordered two new, handwoven willow baskets from a craftsman at Wrentham, Suffolk. There were boxes of treats on hand, too, from doggie chocolates to marrow bones.

I drove from London to Gloucestershire during the early morning rush hour, the roads clogged with traffic. The local radio station scarcely helped time pass.

The imposing iron gates and barbed-wire fences at the kennel seemed different from last May when I first visited a series of kennels to make a personal inspection. Then, everything seemed greener: now it was the middle of winter. The cages looked colder, there was more mud around and a distinct feeling of damp isolation.

A quick visit to the main office to collect the dogs' passports and other possessions, and then the moment of reunion had arrived.

Amid the cacophony of barking and yelping from the other dogs, I was at first confused as to where the schnauzers were: one cage looked just like any other, nor was it easy to tell the barks apart. I felt so sorry for those dogs remaining behind.

Within minutes, I was inside the cage of Shpilkes and Snaffles, the cage they had called their home for six months. We were reunited at last. There were enthusiastic wet licks and hugs. I put on their collars and collected up their favourite toys: a squeaky green dinosaur (hers) and a frisbee (his). It was as though nothing had changed. Both dogs were alert, though bewildered by what was to happen to them next.

GERAINT LEWIS

Mr Kallenbach with his schnauzers

They had lost weight, but looked fine in their new, trim figures. I thought for a second that, perhaps, I was wrong after all and that quarantine had agreed with them? Surely not. Maybe pets are more resilient than their owners when it comes to separation.

Having been parted for six months from the dogs — I chose not to visit them at the kennels' suggestion — I now relish every opportunity to take them out, whether it's for them to play and run free during the week in the vast, open spaces of Hyde Park, London, or to chase squirrels and rabbits at weekends in the forests of Wiltshire at the weekends.

I'm enjoying their new-found freedom just as much as they are. But my rage against the quarantine regulations continues. With modern scientific methods and vaccinations against rabies, coupled with proper documentation, it must surely only be a matter of time before the Government agrees to ease the six-month period, in line with other European Union countries.

Quarantine, however, is an emotive and divisive issue in Britain, and is likely to remain so. Most British animal-owners would like to take their pets abroad on holiday with them, while those without pets argue that Britain is rabies-free precisely because of the existing rules.

The Federation of Irate Dog Owners (Fido) — despite its name, it is also concerned about cats — which I helped to found with Lady Mary Fretwell as a result of an article I wrote in Weekend last year, is hoping to convince MPs to introduce reform. *Times* readers have responded in amazing numbers to my plea last year to change the laws; only one wrote to say that she had little sympathy for pet owners: she said we were slightly off the wall.

● *Fido can be contacted on 0171 373 2498.*

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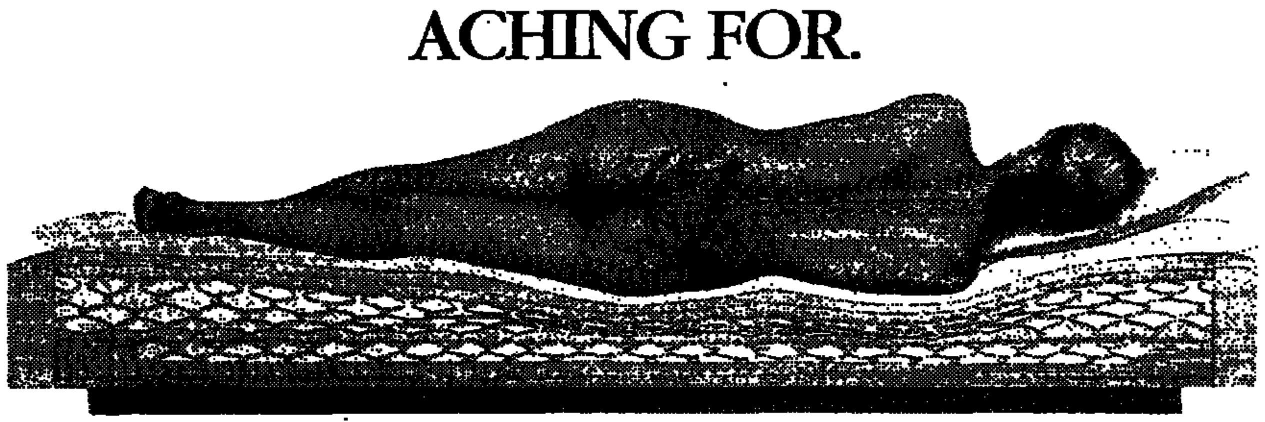

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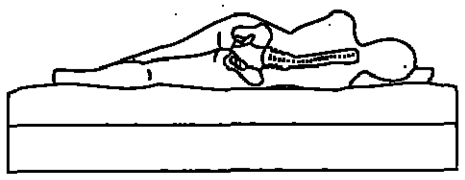

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Tomor 12 Mar 7.30pm	**NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA, CANADA** Trevor Pinnock cond., Håkan Hardenberger trumpet. Beethoven Symphony No.8 in F Haydn Trumpet Concerto Linda Bouchard Vertige (London Premiere) Mendelssohn Symphony No.3 in A minor, Scottish £6.50-£20 *Van Walsum Management Ltd*
Tues 14 Mar 7.30pm	**BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL** London Soloists Orchestra David Josefowitz cond., Megumi Fujita piano, Arisa Fujita violin, Honoka Fujita cello, English Chamber Choir. Beethoven Choral Fantasia; Triple Concerto Symphony No.3 *Eroica* £20 £15 £12 £9 £7 *LSCO (1983) Ltd.*
Wed 15 Mar 7.30pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** The Magic of Mackerras. NEC International Series. Sir Charles Mackerras cond., Steven Isserlis cello. Dvořák Carnival Overture; Cello Concerto; Symphony No.7 *RPO Ltd* £27 £21 £16 £10 £5 *SPONSORED BY NEC (UK) Ltd.*
Fri 17 Mar 7.30pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** The Magic of Mackerras. A Royal Philharmonic Society Concert. Sir Charles Mackerras cond., Tasmin Little violin. Martinu The Frescoes of Piero della Francesca Dvořák Violin Concerto; In Nature's Realm Janáček Sinfonietta £27 £21 £16 £10 £5 *RPO Ltd.*

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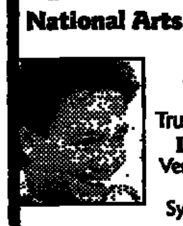

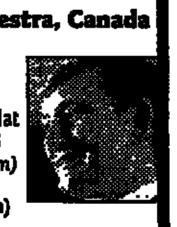

Beethoven
Symphony No.8
Haydn
Trumpet Conc in E flat
Linda Bouchard
Vertige *(London Prem)*
Mendelssohn
Sym No.3 (Scottish)

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BRAHMS Academic Festival Overture
MOZART Violin Concerto No.3 in G major
BRAHMS Violin Concerto

Thursday 15 June, 7.30pm
BERNSTEIN Candide Overture
BARBER Violin Concerto
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Saturday 17 June, 7.30pm
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Saturday 11 March 5.00 pm NB: starting time	**SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD** Song Recital Series **Lorna Anderson soprano, Maarten Koningsberger baritone, Malcolm Martineau piano.** Songs from July to September 1815 incl. *Die Mondnacht, Die Spinnerin, An den Frühling & Das Rosenband* All seats £7 Wigmore Hall
Saturday 11 March 7.30 pm	**BEAUX ARTS TRIO** French Season Hummel: Piano Trio in G Op.65 Ravel: Trio in A minor (1914) Schubert: Trio in E flat D929 £16, £14, £10, £8 Wigmore Hall
Sunday 12 March 11.30 am NB: starting time	**VOGLER QUARTET** Coffee Concert Beethoven: String Quartet in D Op.18 No.3 Janáček: String Quartet No.2 *Intimate Letters* (1928) £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice Wigmore Hall
Sunday 12 March 4.00 pm NB: starting time	**FOU TS'ONG piano** Handel: Chaconne in G; Schubert: Sonata in G D894; Debussy: 6 Epigraphes antiques; Chopin: Prelude in C sharp minor Op.45 Prelude in A flat Op Posth; Berceuse Op.57; Ballade in F minor Op.52 £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50 Horowitz Music Mgt/Peter Chisholm
Monday 13 March 7.30 pm	**URSULA DUETSCHLER harpsichord.** Forqueray: Suite No.4 from *Pièces de clavecin*; Duphly: La Forqueray; Chaconne; La Médée A.-L. Couperin: Les quatre nations; Balbastre: La Suzanne; La Genty; La Malesherbe; La Berryer etc £10, £8, £6, £4 Supported by the Swiss Cultural Fund in Britain Tim Bullamore Mgt
Tuesday 14 March 7.30 pm	**DEON VAN DER WALT tenor** Song Recital Series **GRAHAM JOHNSON piano** Schumann: Dichterliebe Op.48 Songs by Liszt and Brahms £12, £10, £8, £6 Wigmore Hall
Wednesday 15 March 7.30 pm	**VOGLER QUARTET** Master Concert Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E flat Op.12 Beethoven: Quartet in F Op.135 Schoenberg: Quartet No.4 Op.37 (1936) £12, £10, £8, £6 Wigmore Hall
Thursday 16 March 7.30 pm	**CECILE OUSSET piano** French Season **RAVEL PROGRAMME I** Ravel: Sonatine; Miroirs; Menuet antique; Gaspard de la nuit £12, £10, £8, £6 Wigmore Hall
Friday 17 March 7.30 pm	**NATASHA KORSAKOVA violin, OLEG POLIANSKY piano** London début. Bach: Chaconne Beethoven: Sonata in A Op.30 No.1 Saint-Saëns: Etude; Valse Caprice; Ravel: Sonata in G (1923-7) £10, £8, £6, £4 Tim Bullamore Mgt
Saturday 18 March 6.00 pm NB: starting time	**SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD** Song Recital Series Rosa Mannion soprano, Paul Whelan baritone, Julius Drake piano Songs from Sept to Dec 1815 including *Lambertine, Mein Gruß an den Mai, Dem Unendlichen, Am Bach im Frühling & Erlkönig* All seats £7 Wigmore Hall
Saturday 18 March 7.30 pm	**CECILE OUSSET piano** International Piano Season Ravel Programme II: Jeux d'eau; Menuet sur le nom de Haydn; Pavane pour une infante défunte; La Valse; Valses nobles et sentimentales; Le tombeau de Couperin £12, £10, £8, £6 Sponsor: Alexandra Trading & Investment Wigmore Hall/Intermusica

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Tue 14 Mar 7.30	**PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** Wolfgang Sawallisch (cond) Murray Perahia (pno) Strauss Don Juan; Also sprach Zarathustra; Schumann Piano Conc. 6pm: John Amis talk. Spons: Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale. £28, £22, £17, £10, £5 *Phil Ltd
Wed 15 Mar 7.30	**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Elgar: The Music Maker. Andrew Davis (cond) Antonio Meneses (cello) Handel/Elgar Overture in D minor; Elgar Cello Concerto; Symphony No.2 Sponsor: Land Rover. £10 (unreserved) BBC Radio 3 FM

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Sun 12 Mar 3.00	**LONDON SUZUKI GROUP** Christine Livingstone (dir of music) A concert of classical music including solo and ensemble items given by children aged 4 to 16 years. £7 (ONLY) *London Suzuki Group
Sun 12 Mar 7.45	**NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO** with Milton Keynes City Orch, H Davan Wetton (cond) A Hardy (tpt) Susannah Simons (intro). Prog inc Haydn London; Shostakovich Conc 1; Dvořák Czech Suite; excerpts Mendelssohn Italian. Spons: Unisys. £16, £12, £9, £6 *MKCO
Mon 13 Mar 7.45	**NEW SINFONIETTA AMSTERDAM** Lev Markiz (cond) Jard van Nes (mezzo) Beethoven/Mahler String Qrt, Op.95; Wagner/Henze Wesendonk Lieder; Shostakovich Chamber Sym Op.110a. £15, £12.50, £10, £8, £6 ICM Artists (London) Ltd
Thu 16 Mar 7.45	**MOZART & HIS CONTEMPORARIES** London Mozart Players, Matthias Bamert, Justus Frantz. Stamitz Symphony; Mozart Piano Conc. K.595; 6 Minuets, K.164; Beethoven Sym No.1. Spons: Générale des Eaux Group. £8 (ONLY) *HMS
Fri 17 Mar 7.45	**LONDON SINFONIETTA** The 40's: War & Peace. Sir Simon Rattle (cond) L Shelton, B Bonney, P Langridge, S Keenlyside, N Robson, P Hall, C Purves. Poulenc Les Mamelles de Tirésias; Boulez Le Soleil des Eaux. £25, £20, £16, £10 *Sinf Prods Ltd

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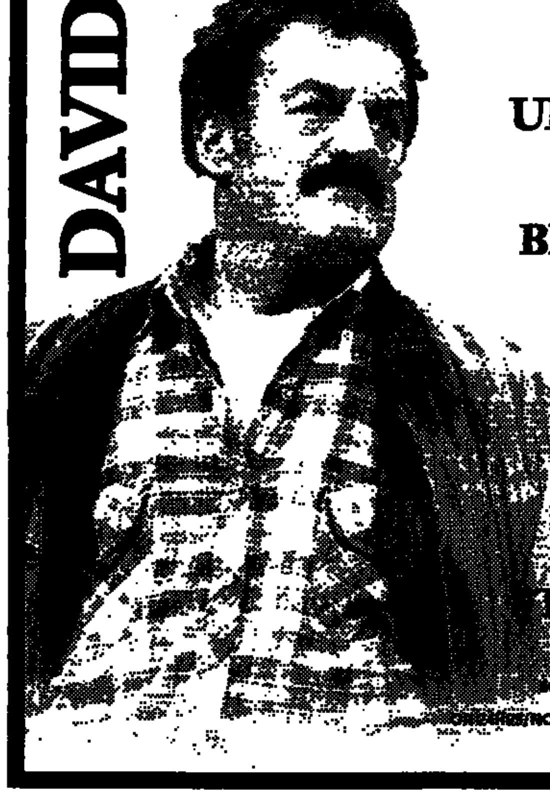

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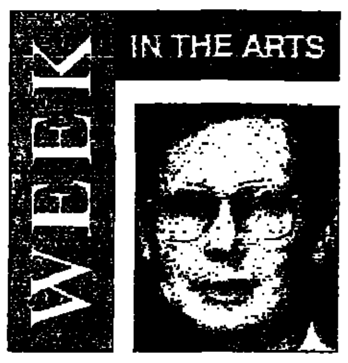
Hard to follow the score these days



RICHARD MORRISON

Orchestras are big news again for all the wrong reasons. Someone has written a book in which members of the London Philharmonic reveal that they, too, have love affairs. I would be more intrigued by a book claiming the opposite. "We are celibate from piccolo to tuba, says top British orchestra." Now *that* would be one worth reading.

But what do I know? I still cling to the naive notion that orchestral musicians are at their best when performing symphonies, not talking about My Naughty Nights With the Hunk in the Violas.

Clearly, I am in a minority. The book's exceedingly mild revelations have received lip-smacking coverage even in broadsheet papers. "Convoluted sex lives and wild parties." *The Guardian* gasped, before churning out every cliché known to Farringdon Road Woman. The orchestra, the paper squeaks, is "groaning under the weight of recent embarrassments". Which are? "The sex, the partying." Ah yes, I forgot.

And what could this do? "Raise a few eyebrows," of course. Where? "Within the cloistered world of classical music." Why's that? "It's the stuff best-sellers are made of." What about the divorce rate in orchestras? "Notorious". And the behaviour of conductors? "Notorious." And Haydn's womanising? You guessed it. "Notorious."

I have some sympathy with the LPO players as they consider this barrel of bilge. The orchestra has been through a ghastly period when it lost its management, principal fundraisers and musical director. The players even had to cut their own fees to stay in business. But they *have* stayed in business, and may yet rise to be the great orchestra that the Festival Hall needs. That aim deserves encouragement, not ridicule.

Nevertheless, they do seem strangely accident-prone. Take last weekend's fiasco. Franz Welser-Möst, the LPO's music director (soon to be ex-director) hired a little-known German violinist to play a concerto. Unfortunately, he neglected to tell the orchestra's management that she was *his* adoptive father's brother's wife (if you follow). Doubly unfortunately, it soon became apparent to him in rehearsal, and to the orchestra's chairman, that she "wasn't ready" for her big night out. So he hired somebody else.

Trebly unfortunately, her husband (Franz's adoptive father's brother, if you are still with me) took it very badly, and phoned the press in high dudgeon. Not, you may think, the wisest career move he could have made on his wife's behalf, but there you are.

The newspapers concluded that this was all part of a massive family feud — because Welser-Möst has long since distanced himself from his adoptive father by the simple device of having an affair with his adoptive father's wife. It was left to readers to work out how this explained his decision to engage, and then drop, his girlfriend's husband's brother's wife to play a concerto.

Welser-Möst naturally denies any element of vendetta in his treatment of the violinist. "If there was a family feud, I would not have invited her in the first place," he says, which sounds plausible. But more damage to the LPO's image has been done.

How should the LPO now proceed? There is no easy answer, because its woes are merely symptoms of a wider malaise affecting all classical music. Like the Royal Family and the Church of England, the classical-music business has spent too long listening to advisers who tell it to loosen up its "starchy" image, dispel its mystique, join the 20th century, attract younger fans, broaden its appeal. That new book about the LPO is a case in point: the players collaborated on it (their chairman told me this week) because they had been advised that orchestras were "regarded as dinosaurs" and they wanted to show themselves in a more friendly light.

In general, the marketing techniques of pop have recently been applied to the classics in a way that has appalled the very people who form the bedrock of orchestral audiences. After all, you immerse yourself in classical music to *escape* from hype and cultural garbage. Yes, classical music — like the Royal Family — has become "newsworthy" as a result. But only if there is something lurid and negative to report.

Well, the musicians have opened Pandora's Box, and it cannot now be closed. In fact, some new gormlessness escapes from it every week. This week, for instance, the South Bank Centre, once a proud classical-music venue, confirmed that the Royal Festival Hall would no longer be complemented by the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Purcell Room. Those names sound "municipal and ancient", said Mike McCart, marketing guru. Instead, the halls will be renamed RFH 2 and RFH 3. Some £60,000 of taxpayers' money has gone into brainstorming the South Bank's "new corporate identity".

What's it all for? "We are moving from primarily serving the older, familiar few to meeting the needs of the younger, promiscuous plenty," says Mr McCart, who has clearly missed his true vocation as a Club 18-30 rep.

So are you feeling young, promiscuous and plentiful? What a world of musical discovery awaits you, bopping to the Bonking Philharmonic under strobe-lighting in RFH 2. For the rest of us, though, the *thought* of a £13 million annual subsidy going to an arts centre that has all the cultural aspirations of a seafront disco in *Benidorm* is a little irksome.

Judging books by the covers

Jim McCue compares the work of modern bookbinders with that of a century ago. He is not impressed

Not content to be fine craftsmen, many contemporary bookbinders want to be artists. So they contrive coverings as a means of expression. A double exhibition in Sheffield offers a chance to compare the work of 74 bindings of a century ago with 80 bindings of today. While the modern examples are more colourful and experimental, using a wider range of materials, they are also more self-conscious, less skilfully crafted, less hard-wearing and less like real books.

In 1894, James and Mary Tregaskis sent 76 sets of sheets of a new book to workshops all over the world, asking for a characteristic fine binding. The results were exhibited to acclaim at their Caxton Head bookshop in London and were even displayed before Queen Victoria at Windsor. The collection was bought by Mrs *John Rylands, for the Rylands* Library in Manchester.

Last year, Designer Bookbinders undertook a repeat of the exercise to mark the centenary. But whereas the original choice of book was a noble volume printed by William Morris at the Kelmscott Press, the 1994 selection is not a book but a toy. *The Garden and Other Poems* by Andrew Marvell, from the Folio Society, is a feeble production, in which one poem is an editorial invention of the anonymous compiler. From the binder's point of view it offers little scope, being but 3½ in x 4¾ in, with only 32 pages, unpaginated, with no preliminary or terminal blanks, and being sewn — practically stapled — in a single section. (The only decent things about it are Harry Brockway's wood-engravings.) It seems that too few bookbinders actually know about *books*.

Now, anything does as a cover, from a gatefold mermaid to industrial metal panelling. Many of the 1994 books are dressed in heavy overcoats. Several wear goatskin — a coarse leather appropriate to a much larger book. M. Salim treats this miniature as if it were a folio, absurdly giving it five fake raised bands.

Other examples are twee, such as Bayntun's green goatskin with gold-embossed flowers, or Edith Bernáth's creamy calf with brass clasps.

A couple of bindings are pleasingly designed to look like formal gardens (Angela James and Bernard Middleton), but from the evidence of the modern lettering, nobody today can rival the traditional tooling skills of the 1890s binderies in London and Paris.

> ❝It seems that too few bookbinders actually know about books❞

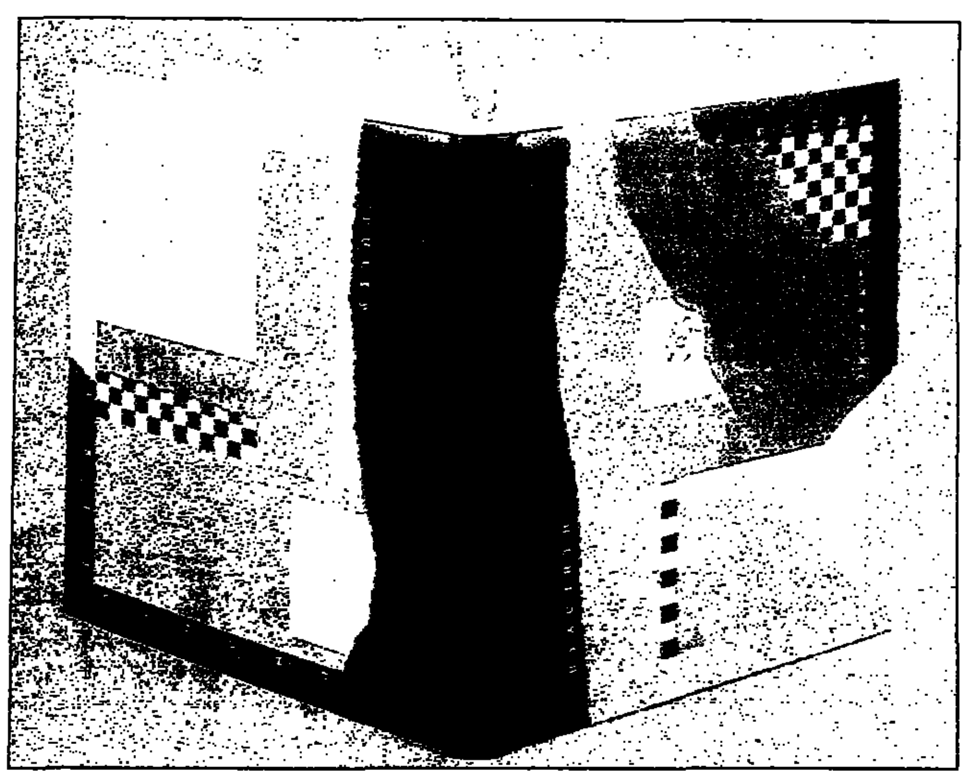
A recent exhibition by Designer Bookbinders at the British Library confirmed that too often the book ends up as the binder's victim. An invitation to six "fellows" of Designer Bookbinders to treat last year's Booker shortlist produced uniformly unpleasant results.

The binding should never be the point of a book. It should invite perusal, whereas some overwrought bindings prevent the volume being opened at all, and others are so heavily sculpted or "puckered" or ornamented that the book cannot be shelved.

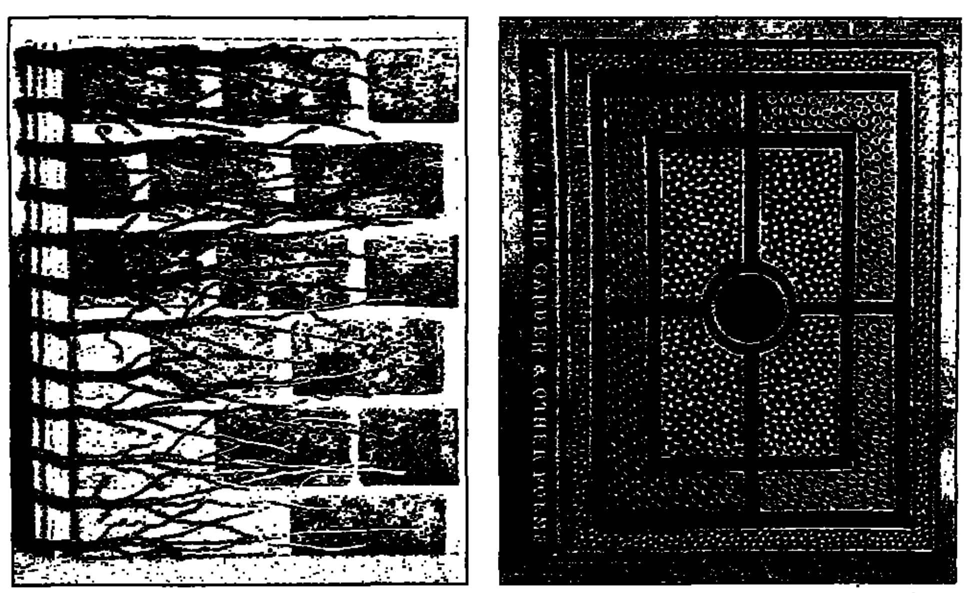
The extent to which content is sometimes ignored was clear in a competition which asked for bindings of another Folio Society book, Jane Austen's juvenile *History of England*: two binders spelt her name "Austin". The book variously became a backgammon set, a handbag and a patchwork quilt, and was felt to need inlays of mirror, mother-of-pearl, a defence medal, wooden balls and "emulsified Maril". J. Peet put it in a "stiffened muslin girdle": perhaps the first politically correct bookbinding?

But the British Library exhibition did also show a few binders combining excellent handicraft with bold, stylish and sympathetic design. Deborah Evetts bound Melville's *Billy Budd: Sailor* in different shades of goatskin — for the sky, the sea, the deep — with onlaid fish and tooling suggesting nets. Pamela Richmond offered a superb silhouette of gold dots depicting a tangled wood on the dark green leather of *Poems by Edward Thomas and Robert Frost*. And best of all was Raija Newton's lighthearted frog-green binding of Twain's *The Jumping Frog*. On the rear panel, the little creature, with embossed staring eyes, is at rest: on the front he is in mid-leap. Great fun, but not every giant leap is progress.

● *The 1894 and 1994 Tregaskis books are at the Ruskin Gallery, Sheffield (0114 2735299), until March 18: the 1994 books will then be at Bayntun's in Bath (01225 466000), April 3-29.*



Susan Allix's *A Flora*, bound by Angela James, "designed to look like a formal garden"



Louise Genest's laced binding (left); and Bernard Middleton's (right) in brown goatskin

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

MELANIE MARSHALL

Profession: Singer

Age: 33

Jazz or classical singing? She got a scholarship to study singing and piano at the Royal College of Music. The intention was to become a classical singer on the concert hall circuit.

But... Jazz got a hold and now she is one of the five-strong cast of *Ain't Misbehavin'*, the revived Manhattan Theatre Club revue of Fats Waller's music, which sold out through its ten-week run at the Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn. It transferred to the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, on Wednesday.

So it is goodbye to classical, then. Not necessarily. If the show had not been transferred, she would be preparing to sing Despina in *Così fan Tutti* in Barbados, "something I've always wanted to sing. I hope I get another chance".

The publicity says she comes from Barbados. Not quite accurate. Her parents, a civil servant and a nurse, both amateur musicians, were born in Barbados. "I come from William Walton country, Dame Eva Turner country, Bernard Cribbens country," she says. In other words, Oldham, Lancashire.

Where did the road to the West End start? Sheffield in 1986 with Steven Pimlott's *Carmen Jones*, then Trevor Nunn's Glyndebourne *Porgy and Bess*, the RSC's *Kiss Me Kate*, and Jonathan Miller's *The Tempest*.

What are they saying about Melanie? A random selection from the audience for her after-show cabaret: "A new Ella Fitzgerald", "Nina Simone with a giggle". Less randomly, "a superb rich voice and a presence that holds the stage" — *Independent on Sunday*. Nicolas Kent, co-director of the show, said: "She's got a marvellous rapport with the audience, a terrific voice. Add the impish sense of humour and the innate sexiness and it's all there for her."

Is opera her first love? "I just want to sing. I like my Mozart and I like my Puccini, something with a tune. But some opera's very confusing, and I don't like that."

Heroes? Ella; Nina; her brother Wayne Marshall — another RCM graduate, an organist and conductor with whom she performed at the 1993 Aldeburgh Festival; Sting ("I just love his songs"); Willard White for whom she has arranged Negro spirituals; the jazz composer Julian Joseph; and John Rutter, the songwriter and record producer who has brought out her two CDs to date.

Is she carrying a banner for black music? No. "I came into the show because the music is fabulous, and it makes good theatre. If you had asked me my ambitions ten years ago, I would have said to be part of a small cast that is in a successful show where people are clamouring to get tickets. I'm doing it, and the bonus is moving it to the West End."

SIMON TAIT

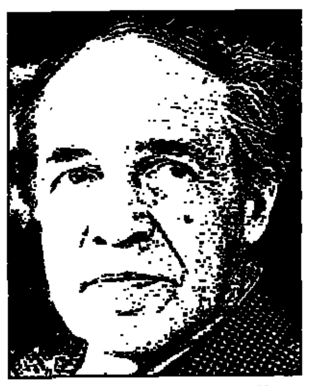
CONCERTS: The LSO in peak form for Boulez's birthday party; composers who turned their backs on war

The coronation of King Pierre

LSO / Boulez
Barbican

THIS was the finale to a series, celebrating Pierre Boulez's seventieth birthday, that ranks both as a pinnacle of the London Symphony Orchestra's history and as the last stage of the long transformation of Boulez's image from severe ascetic to darling of mainstream concert-goers. It was also a series that offered hope for the future of serious, demanding music. On Wednesday, a packed throng again warmed readily to Boulez's own, uncompromising music, in this case the ultra-precise, refined colours of *Improvisation III* from *Pli selon pli*.

In this disturbed, ever changing *Improvisation*, last revised in 1983, is found the essence of Boulez. Always question, always move, always pursue all possible directions. But the restlessness contains itself within a securing web of sustained sounds, like some vast resonance of a cataclysmic explosion in whose aftermath disparate fragments slowly oscillate about the universe. The reading was wonderfully accurate without being in the least clinical, and Laura Aikin delivered Mallarmé's lines with unflinching certitude, letting the notes do the work rather than imposing too self-aware an interpretation.



Boulez: mainstream darling

That was also Anne-Sophie Mutter's approach in Berg's Violin Concerto, although her absolute emotional involvement was not for a moment in question. Caressing the ear with her wondrously singing sound, she gave the music plenty of air, avoiding the stodginess of phrasing that can sometimes hamper its ethereal quality. And, of course, Boulez and the LSO were far more than mere accompanists, playing a full part in a performance of startling clarity, one that powerfully evoked a resignation to that great and terrible master of us all, death.

The finale to the whole series, in which no music more than 100 years old has been heard (if you discount Bach's chorale *Es ist genug*, upon which Berg weaves variations for his finale), could have been nothing other than that great symbol of our own century, Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. The piece still stuns us with its violence, its tumult; but with age it has also yielded more of its other influences, particularly from Russian folk culture. Boulez's metronomic beat and precise cueing brought to this music, too, an unusual clarity, though even he could not avoid the brass at times suffocating the strings. But clarity certainly did not entail ritual sacrifice of raw brutality and animal, sexual energy; for all his modest mein, Boulez showed that, old hat thought the *Rite* now is, it can still shock.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Escape to a happy ending

CBSO / Rattle
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

RICHARD STRAUSS and Clemens Krauss in Germany indulging in a discussion on the rival claims to primacy of words and music, Vaughan Williams in England dreaming of some kind of celestial city, Aaron Copland and Martha Graham in America evoking life in a pioneer community in 19th-century Pennsylvania: did nobody tell them there was a war on?

In fact, as Sir Simon Rattle demonstrated in another Towards the Millennium concert in Symphony Hall, where composers as great as Strauss and Vaughan Williams are involved, wartime music which seems to be entirely remote from the events of the day is no less relevant in its way than those which reflect the full horror of them.

Copland is perhaps not in the same category, but his *Appalachian Spring* does have a Shaker kind of simplicity which — in offsetting the sublime self-indulgence of Strauss's *Capriccio* — usefully allies it with the pilgrim ethic of Vaughan Williams's Fifth Symphony. That does not make it any easier to stop it sounding excessively plain at the beginning of a concert, however. So it was a wise decision to choose the more colourful, if somewhat less authentic, full-orchestral version of the suite from the ballet rather than the one which reflects the original scoring for 13 instruments.

The aesthetic gap between *Appalachian Spring* and the closing scene of Strauss's last opera cannot have been easy to cross. But from the first sound of the fervent melodic line carried by a lyrical solo horn, it was as though the opera had been in progress from the beginning. The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra made some lovely sounds here and, with Felicity Lott in most eloquent voice, escapism was demonstrated to be no less valid an inspiration than confrontation.

Just what position between those two extremes is occupied by Vaughan Williams's Fifth Symphony is one of the enigmas of British music. Rattle's interpretation told us no more than that the work is based on a radiant and scarcely threatened faith in a happy ending. He took a broad but not undramatic view of it, adopting generally slow tempos in the Moderato and the Lento and slowing down still further to make the most of an acceleration towards the climax of the first movement. The motivation was as spontaneous as the orchestral sound was fresh and yet, at the point near the end where the opening is so effectively recalled, the elements fell into place as if by minute calculation.

GERALD LARNER

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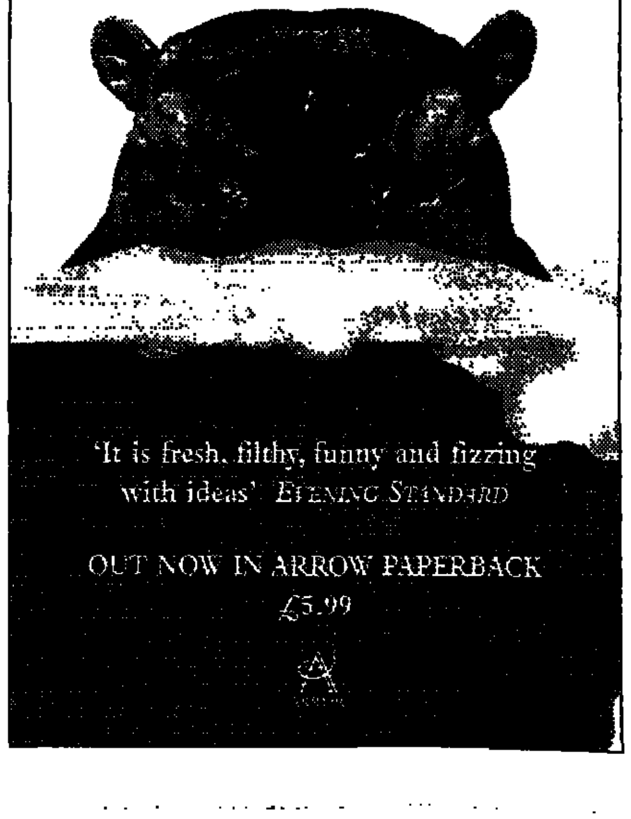
4 - 8 APR	THE ORCHARD, DARTFORD	01322 220000
11 - 15 APR	FORUM THEATRE, WYTHENSHAWE	0161 236 7110
18 - 22 APR	WILDE THEATRE, BRACKNELL	01344 484123
25 - 29 APR	QUEEN'S THEATRE, BARNSTAPLE	01271 24242
9 - 13 MAY	CONNAUGHT THEATRE, WORTHING	01903 235333
16 - 20 MAY	WARWICK ARTS CENTRE, COVENTRY	01203 524524
23 - 27 MAY	THE PLAYHOUSE, OXFORD	01865 798600
30 MAY - 3 JUN	RICHMOND THEATRE	0181 940 0088
6 - 10 JUN	LAWRENCE BATLEY THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD	01484 430528

THE SUNDAY TIMES
The Great Redford
❝There has always been more than a dash of Gatsby in Robert Redford. Self-made millionaires, they both spent much of their youth travelling around Europe, before returning to find fame and fortune. Now, Redford studiously avoids the limelight. The Sundance Kid has gone into a full eclipse . . .❞
Tom Shone profiles Robert Redford, in The Magazine — The Sunday Times tomorrow



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WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ *House full, returns only*
◩ *Some seats available*
☐ *Seats at all prices*

◩ **AGAMEMNON'S CHILDREN:** Laurence Boswell directs in repertory Euripides's plays on frenzied Electra, haunted Orestes and sacrificed, innocent Iphigenia.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (0171-229 0706) Individual plays Mon-Tue, Thurs-Fri, 7.30pm. Trilogy Wed and Sat, except Mar 27 and 31. Until Apr 1.

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The hit Fats Waller musical show comes into the West End. Packed with tuneful numbers and dancing energy.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Mar 13.

■ **BROKEN GLASS**: Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. David Thacker's production, with Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester superb as the central Jewish couple.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love. Final performances.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Today 2.30 and 7.30pm.

☐ **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER**: Judd Hirsch re-creates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's play, covering 40 years of Jewish experience in New York. When all's told, it's fairly thin stuff. Alan Ayckbourn directs.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm Ⓢ

☐ **DESIGN FOR LIVING**: Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, *with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar.*
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

◩ **FEVER PITCH:** The one-man show adapted from Nick Hornby's best-selling account of a lifelong obsession with Arsenal FC. Stephen North takes us through 45 minutes each way.
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 2132) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 6.15 and 8.30pm

☐ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE**: Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects, ill and good, of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **KILLER JOE**: Utterly absorbing, shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987); Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **THE LIVE BED SHOW**: Arthur Smith's revised version of his 1989 Edinburgh Festival comedy: Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton play a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm.

◩ **NEW ENGLAND**: Richard Nelson looks at the English abroad, behaving just as Americans say we do. Interesting ideas and good acting led by Angela Thorne, David Burke and Mick Ford. *Final performances.*
Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. Ⓢ

◩ **A NIGHT IN NOVEMBER.** Dubbeljoint (a name combining Dublin and Belfast) in London again with Marie Jones's popular comedy with an edge. Dan Gordon plays the Ulster Protestant finding torment and liberation following the Republic's team in the World Cup.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Until Apr 1 Ⓢ

■ **THE PRESENT**: Australian control freaks bewildering a naive young Brit. Nick Ward's latest, excellent acting but weird stuff.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Mar 25

☐ **THE STRIP**: Phyllis Nagy's new play follows sundry oddballs converging on Las Vegas. Don't expect great linear progression, enjoy it as a post-modernist mosaic. With Cheryl Campbell, Nicholas Farrell and Nicholas le Prevost.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 7

☐ **STUFFED SHIRTS & MARIONETTES**: Ingeniously staged exploration by Public Parts of Ellen Ternan's life as the mistress of Charles Dickens, though the emphasis on Victorian prostitution feels overdone.
Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060) Tue, 6.30pm; Wed-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 5pm. Until Mar 19

☐ **UP'N'UNDER**. John Godber's rugby play: a scratch club pits itself against peak performers.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm. Ⓢ

☐ **WOMEN OF TROY**: Euripides's intense and poignant tragedy, translated by Kenneth McLeish. Jane Birkin comes back to the English-speaking theatre to play Andromache, with Rosemary Harris as Hecuba in Annie Castledine's directorial debut here.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.15pm; opens Mar 16. Ⓢ

■ **ZORRO — THE MUSICAL.** The masked swashbuckler rights wrongs, defies gravity and gives the audience a great time in a typically rumbustious Ken Hill show.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

LONG RUNNERS

■ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-867 1044) . . ■ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . ■ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . ■ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . . ■ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . . ■ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . ◩ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ◩ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (0171-369 1731) ◩ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . ■ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . . ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ■ **Three Tall Women**: Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) . . . ◩ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18): See Critics' Choice, page 2

I LOVE A MAN IN UNIFORM (18): Cop show actor loses grip on reality. Striking Canadian film from director David Wellington, with Tom McCamus.
Metro (071-437 0757)

MRS. PARKER AND THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (15) (18): See Critics' Choice, page 2.

◆ **NELL** (12): Doctor Liam Neeson nurtures backwoods wild child Jodie Foster. Well acted, well meant, but glutinous. Director, Michael Apted.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

S.F.W. (18). Thin, raucous satire on America's fetish for celebrities. Jefery Levy directs Stephen Dorff and Reese Witherspoon.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

THE SILENCES OF THE PALACE: Powerful portrait of a servant girl's life in the Tunisian royal palace. A notable debut by director Moufida Tlatli.
ICA Ⓢ (0171-930 3647)

◆ **WAGONS EAST!** (PG): Feeble comedy set in the old West, only notable as John Candy's last film. With Richard Lewis; director, Peter Markle.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15): Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

◆ **ANDRE**. Adventures of an orphaned seal. Well-packaged family film with Keith Carradine, Tina Majorino and a scene-stealing sea lion.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): Strange, fatal friendship of two New Zealand teenagers. Compelling, imaginative, true-life drama from director Peter Jackson.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LEON** (18): Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty *thriller shot in New York by French* director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman.
MGMs: Shaftesbury Ave (0171-836 6279) **Tottenham Court Rd** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18): Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone, with Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (01426 915683)

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others.
Electric Ⓢ (0171-792 2020) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12). Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon. Director, Curtis Hanson.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Empire** Ⓢ (0800 888911) **MGMs: Fulham Road** Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Gate** Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK**. Muddled live-action adventures of jungle boy Mowgli. With Jason Scott Lee, Lena Headley, Cary Elwes. Director, Stephen Sommers.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs Kerry Fox, Christopher Eccleston and Ewan McGregor.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION**: How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Director, Frank Darabont.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun. Roland Emmerich directs.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG). Talky but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Patrick Stewart meets William Shatner; David Carson directs.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15): Kieślowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives, a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irene Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U): Absorbing film of Andre Gregory's treatment of *Uncle Vanya*, caught in rehearsal by Louis Malle's cameras at a decrepit New York theatre. Wallace Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and George Gaynes head the fine cast.
Gate Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **Minema** (0171-235 4225)

NEW ON VIDEO: History's beat on a tin drum; Costner makes an Earp of himself

Little drummer boy: David Bennent as Oskar in Volker Schlöndorff's 1979 adaptation of Günter Grass's *The Tin Drum*

■ THE TIN DRUM
Connoisseur, 15, 1979
NOTHING Volker Schlöndorff has accomplished since can compare with the force and clarity the director brought to Günter Grass's novel about Oskar, the wilful boy from Danzig who stunts his growth in response to the craziness of adult life in a Europe soon to embrace Hitler. Oskar (memorably played by 12 year-old David Bennent) makes an uncomfortable hero, whether letting loose a scream that shatters glass or making love to the family servant.

■ CAT-WOMEN OF THE MOON
First Class Films, PG, 1953
SPACEMEN in the world's least high-tech rocket (note the office swivel chairs) land on the moon's dark side, where a colony of leotard-clad girls desperate to propagate lie in wait. An endearingly bad movie that may not reach the idiotic heights scaled by cult director Ed Wood but can still provide innocent merriment. The cast includes the enjoyable Victor Jory, busty Marie Windsor, Sonny Tufts and a passing giant tarantula. Plus music by Elmer Bernstein.

■ QUERELLE
Artificial Eye, 18, 1982
FASSBINDER'S final testament: an exotic treatment of Jean Genet's novel about a self-regarding sailor, set in an airless, artificial world bedecked with stone walls, phallic towers, sailors with pompoms, policemen in black leather, a blazing orange sky, and a cast of performers all at sea, from Brad Davis to Jeanne Moreau (who occasionally bursts into song). Quite astonishing, although as the film develops you come to feel like an observer at a masquerade party to which you have not been invited.

■ THE RETURN OF MARTIN GUERRE
Arrow, 15, 1982
HOLLYWOOD recently relocated and updated this story and produced that plush slab of hokum, *Sommersby*. The French original boasts Gérard Depardieu as the 16th-century soldier who returns to his wife and growing doubts about his true identity. Visually, director Daniel Vigne never rises above the plain style of a well-bred television movie, although the acting and the plot twists keep interest alive.

■ THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT! III
MGM/UA, U, 1994
A FURTHER trip back to the 1940s and 1950s, when the MGM lion introduced musicals bursting with garish escapism, vibrant songs, swirling choreography and all the hues of the Technicolor paintbox. Rare footage such as Judy Garland's electrifying number *Mr Monotony*, cut from *Easter Parade*, make this essential for musical buffs. Guest appearances by Gene Kelly, Lena Horne and others have their own grim fascination. But the editors cut the material recklessly and, unless you have stars in your eyes, too many sequences may remind you how often the studio wasted its talent on shoddy material.

■ WYATT EARP
Warner Video, 12, 1994
THREE hours and ten minutes long, this latest depiction of the legendary lawman is clearly designed to impress. *Brooding photography sets the solemn tone*; and scarcely a smile flickers across Kevin Costner's face as his despairing young widower finds his niche with a badge and a gun. Lawrence Kasdan's epic is always handsome and usually intelligent, although Costner's glacial performance and a wobbly attitude towards its hero (man of myth or revenge-driven killer?) lessen the film's achievement.

GEOFF BROWN

A chip to take the spin off discs

The manufacturers fighting over a better CD may be trumped by the humble memory chip

A fortnight ago, I reported on the proposals by Philips and Sony, joint creators of Compact Disc, for a revolutionary high-capacity disc which they intend should be the new standard for the end of the decade. The amount of sound or video information it can carry will be vastly increased by narrowing the laser beam and the track of digital "pits" it reads and by "embedding" a second track beneath the surface one, which the laser reads by changing focus.

Nevertheless, I concluded that there were plenty of reasons not to consign your CDs to the car-boot sale. The first reason is that today's compact disc, although it is 1970s technology and already outdated, has the inertia of an established format; the second, that the capacity of the new format is unnecessarily large for most sound uses and is chiefly designed for video and CD-Rom. It is Video CD and similar formats that are most directly challenged. The third is that a few weeks after the Philips/Sony announcement came another from Toshiba and Time/Warner, heralding a revolutionary high-capacity disc which . . .

Well, you can fill in the rest. This Super Density Digital Video Disc also uses the narrower red-light laser and smaller pits, but instead of doubling the track it simply glues two half-thickness discs together, creating a two-sided disc like a LaserDisc or LP. This offers ten gigabytes of information capacity — as compared with the Philips/Sony 7.4 gigabytes and the mere 640 megabytes of today's CD formats. It may well create problems with manufacturing, however, and disc longevity. Even a minute flaw can let air into a CD or LaserDisc's delicate metal-sprayed playing surface, causing it to degenerate. Gluing two even more delicate surfaces together may increase the hazard. However, SDDVD is much nearer production than double-track and has attracted some heavyweight backing among other hardware and software manufacturers, ranging from Matsushita (Technics and Panasonic) to American companies such as Disney.

All this makes it possible that the new superdiscs, like popes in Rome and Avignon, will end up in a destructive battle for supremacy. But as the dismal experience of Digital Compact Cassette versus MiniDisc has shown, we consumers will simply sit on our money and wait to see who wins — which means that neither will. Probably, therefore, the rivals will have to get together and cobble up some common standard; but meanwhile they just might be overtaken altogether.

FUTURE VISIONS

After all, the whole idea of storing information on spinning discs is old-fashioned. It takes precision moving parts, hard to make and prone to wear, and a lot of power. It was just such mechanical problems that doomed Logie Baird's mechanically scanned television system in the face of wholly electronic television.

We already store digital information (including sound and vision, in digital answering machine and VCR framestores, for example) on a purely electronic device with no moving parts and using just a trickle of voltage — the memory chip. Now NEC is demonstrating a prototype device the size of a credit card, with a palm-sized player, which can already hold 24 minutes of audio — as much as an old LP side.

With reasonable improvements in compression systems, chip capacity and price, NEC believes that by the turn of the century its "Silicon Audio" system will offer one or two hours of sound, as much as a CD or more, and at viable prices. If so, it may be the convenience and cheapness of this or a similar format that kills off the CD; and it is not impossible that the system could be extended to video as well, perhaps on a larger card. The squabbling giants may really be about to suffer slipped discs — or chipped ones, at least.

MICHAEL SCOTT ROHAN

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LOWESTOFT
Marina Theatre
March 27-28. Tickets normally £6.50 to £14.50. Tel 01502 573318

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

CRAWLEY
Hawth
March 30-31. Tickets normally £11 and £13.50. Tel 01293 553636

IPSWICH
Regent
April 25-27. Tickets normally £9.50, £12.50 and £15.50. Tel 01473 281480

CAMBRIDGE
Corn Exchange
May 2-3. Tickets normally £12.50, £15.50 and £18.50. Tel 01223 357851

LINCOLN
Theatre Royal
May 9, 11, 13. Tickets normally £16.50. Tel 01522 525555

DARLINGTON
Civic Theatre
May 15-17. Tickets normally £5 to £16.50. Tel 01325 486555

PRESTON
Charter Theatre
May 26. Tickets normally £7 to £12.50. Tel 01772 258858

SWINDON
Wyvern Theatre
May 30-June 3. Tickets normally £12 and £16. Tel 01793 524481

MR CHIPS RETIRES TO THE COUNTRY

● JAMES HILTON'S classic story of a mild-mannered schoolteacher with a passionate secret, *Goodbye Mr Chips* stars Roger Hume. Buy two tickets for the price of one for the first night at:

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April 4. Tickets normally £9.50. Tel 01823 283244

BURY ST EDMUNDS
Theatre Royal
April 11. Tickets normally £11. Tel 01284 769505

LINCOLN
Theatre Royal
April 18. Tickets normally £11. Tel 01522 525555

HARLOW
Playhouse
April 25. Tickets normally £7.50. Tel 01279 431945

HUDDERSFIELD
Lawrence Batley
May 1. Tickets normally £7. Tel 01484 430528

Don't look now, but Rossini is coming for you. *The Barber of Seville* is on tour — see listing (left)

DISAPPEARED ON TOUR

● SARAH ELSTON meets a mysterious man in a run-down New York bar. She leaves with him and is not seen again. Phyllis Nagy's disturbing — but often funny — play, *Disappeared*, reconstructs the events leading up to their meeting and the impact Elston's disappearance has on those around her. See it at:

MANCHESTER
Dancehouse
March 17-18. £7 tickets for £5. Tel 0161-237 9753

CHIPPING NORTON
The Theatre
March 24-25. £7 tickets for £5. Tel 01608 642350

EDINBURGH
Traverse Theatre
April 2. £8 tickets for £4. Tel 0131 228 1404

SHEFFIELD
Crucible
April 3-8. £10 tickets for £5. Tel 0114-276 9922

GLASGOW
Tron
April 12-13. Two £7.50 or £6 tickets for the price of one. Tel 0141-552 4267

More for less

HEXHAM
Queen's Hall Arts Centre
March 16-18
● THE National Theatre visits its Northumberland with its production of the award-winning *Leave Taking*, by Winsome Pinnock. The play tells of a woman who uses her obsession with her two daughters to avoid the ghosts of her West Indian past. This was Pinnock's first play, and she has gone on to write three more for the BBC. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £7). Tel 01434 607272

BLACKPOOL
Grand Theatre
March 23
● SAVE £2 on all seats (normally £7 to £12.50) for Theatre de Complicite's remarkable production of *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*, based on a story by John Berger. Tel 01253 28372

DERBY
Playhouse
March 21-22
● IN the tradition of such hits of the military life as *The Virgin Soldiers* and *Soldier, Soldier*, Jonathan Lewis directs *Our Boys*, his own wickedly funny and compassionate story of five young soldiers manoeuvring their way through a minefield of booze, betrayals and a few broken dreams. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £10). Tel 01332 363275

EPSOM
Playhouse
March 16-18
● RED Shift Theatre presents a new version by Ranjit Bolt of Molière's classic comedy *George Dandin*, which examines the marriage of a wealthy self-made man to a philandering aristocrat. Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £6.80 (normally £8.50). Tel 01372 742555

CHELTENHAM
Everyman Theatre
March 24-25, 28, 30
● AUDREY, the all-singing, all-dancing plant, threatens to take over Manhattan in *The Little Shop of Horrors*, the spectacular musical that satirises science fiction, B-movies and, by way of variation, the story of Dr Faustus. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £12, £14). Tel 01242 572573

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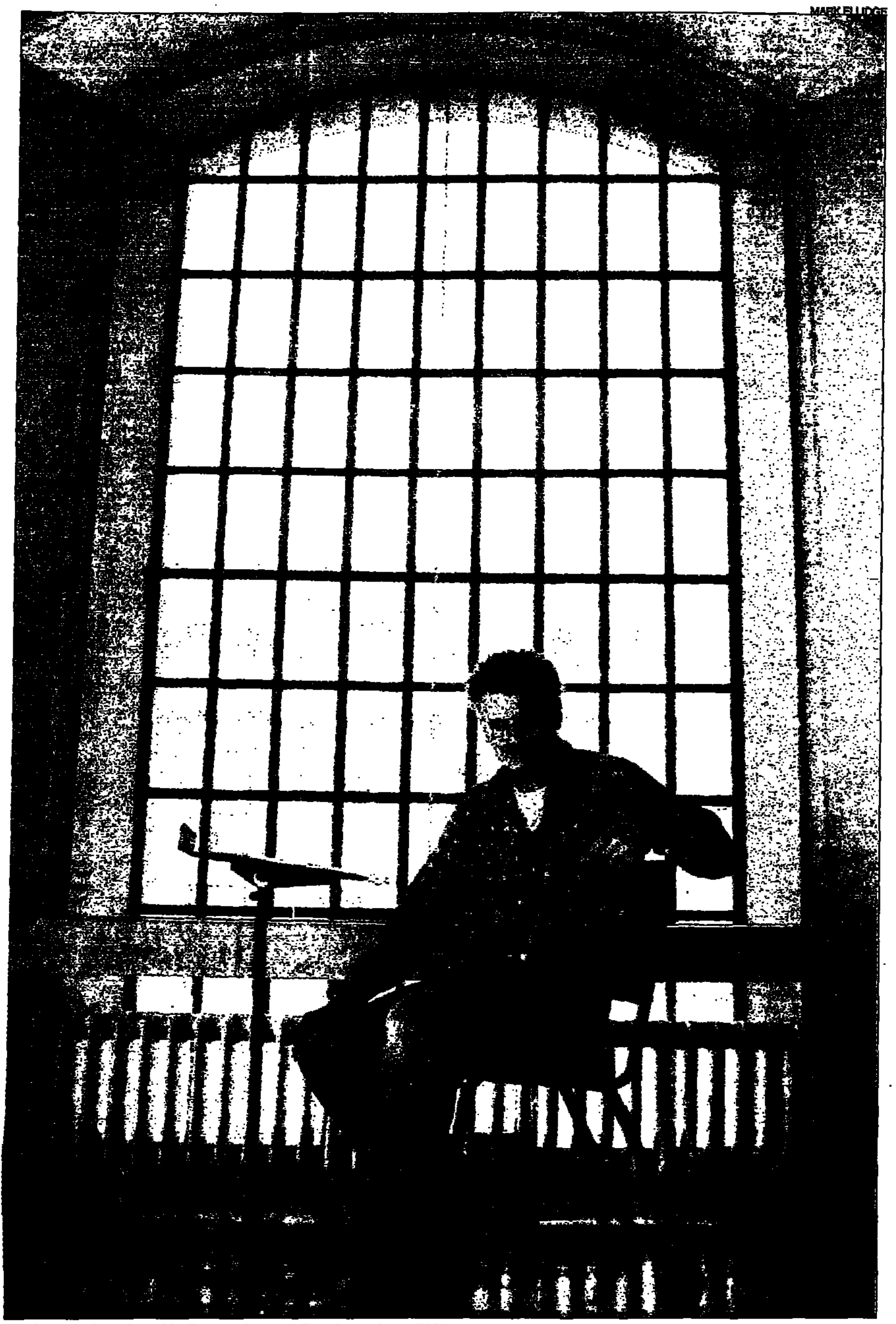
RECORDINGS: Maxwell Davies's Fifth reaches the studio; the Salzburg team reprises *Salome*; Wonder is still the victim of past glories



Window dressing: Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, whose Fifth Symphony now makes its debut as a studio recording

CONTEMPORARY

Stephen Pettitt

■ **MAXWELL DAVIES**
Symphony No 5/ Chat Moss/ Cross Lane Fair/ Five Klee Pictures
Philharmonia Orchestra/ BBC Philharmonic Orchestra/Davies
Collins Classics 14602★★★

LESS than a year after Sir Peter Maxwell Davies himself said that there were no plans for recording his Fifth Symphony, and scarcely half a year after its well-received world premiere at the Proms, here it is, and in a fine, purpose-built recording, too.

The symphony sounds every bit as impressive as it did amid all the sixtieth birthday hype last summer, an original and organic one-movement structure with an epic flavour. It works on a multiplicity of levels and transformations, constantly varied in pace, density and mood. It is also a deftly coloured piece, while, as always, virtuosity is a vital constituent.

Above all, it says something original about symphonic form. When composers of Maxwell Davies's quality cultivate and advance the genre with such flair and power, there can be no substance to the tired argument that the symphony is dead. Under the composer's own direction, the Philharmonia Orchestra, which commissioned the work, meets the challenge on every level, though the recording sounds a trifle muted.

Material from another, shorter orchestral piece, *Chat Moss* (1993) is quoted in the symphony, and so it is logical that it should be recorded alongside it. In fact, *Chat Moss*, like the *Five Klee Pictures* (1959, revised 1976) also performed here, was primarily intended for performance by youth orchestras. If the aphoristic *Klee* cycle, written for Cirencester Grammar School, comes across as more intensely focused, *Chat Moss* is a skilfully wrought occasional piece, complete with spicy, jazzy rhythms, tender chords and catchy tunes, of the type at which Maxwell Davies excels. So is *Cross Lane Fair*, a nostalgic evocation through Northumbrian bagpipes and Celtic drum of a childhood treat. The BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, doughty champions of Maxwell Davies's music, play all three slighter pieces vividly.

☐ **CASKEN**
Darting the skiff/ Maharal Dreaming/ Vaganza
Northern Sinfonia/Casken
Collins Classics 14242★★★

RECENTLY I wrote rather lukewarmly about John Casken's string piece *Darting the skiff* after hearing it in concert. This recording serves the work far better: it comes across as more fluid, more evocative of the play of light upon Italian lake that inspired the work: and conveys Casken's fastidious inventiveness and sense of texture and lyricism far more faithfully. The other pieces on the disc are *Maharal Dreaming* (1989), a rich, one-movement orchestral fantasy based on a scene from Casken's well-received opera *Golem* (1986-88), and *Vaganza* (1985). The latter is an explosively rhythmic and vibrant suite, with chamber organ tinkling in the background.

The composer himself conducts: the excellent orchestra is the Northern Sinfonia.

OPERA

John Higgins

■ **STRAUSS**
Salome
Malfitano/Riegel/Terfel/ Vienna Philharmonic/ Dohnányi
Decca 444 178-2 (2CDs)★★★

THERE are common elements between Decca's new *Salome* and the production which opens at Covent Garden tonight. Christoph von Dohnányi is the conductor, Catherine Malfitano sings the title role and Bryn Terfel and Kenneth Riegel are by her side as Jokanaan and King Herod. The common source of both is Luc Bondy's famous staging at the 1992 Salzburg Festival. If a winning team has been put together, there is no point in breaking it up.

Dohnányi's interpretation is characteristically intense, from tingling opening to the horror at the close. The diversions, such as the miserable, squabbling Jews, are essential breaks in the action. So too is the terrible silence before Jokanaan is decapitated. Dohnányi does not let the musical nerve ends show as much as Sinopoli did on DG and opts for a more imposing reading, drawing meticulous playing from the Vienna Philharmonic, which is recorded by equal meticulousness by Decca's engineers. During the Dance of the Seven Veils, Dohnányi whisks us momentarily into a Viennese ballroom before the warning woodwind announces that Galilee is an altogether nastier place.

Over the past few years, Catherine Malfitano has developed into an outstanding actress-soprano and her Salome is one of the major steps along the road. Studer, on DG, may produce more beautiful sounds and Norman, on Philips, more sumptuous ones once she gets under way. But Malfitano gets further under the skin of this spoilt and vicious brat of a princess. She excels in the changing tone of her demands for Jokanaan's head, at first casual, as though asking for another chocolate eclair, and then increasingly imperious. The words are not always distinct, but Malfitano puts full force into the closing monologue before entering into a dream-like state when her desires have been fulfilled. The difference between Malfitano and her most recent rivals on record is that she has sung the role on stage and they have not. It shows.

Bryn Terfel made his recording debut in that *Salome* under Sinopoli. For Decca he is even more powerful and clearly knows all about cistern life. His Jokanaan is never strident and even becomes quite lyrical at the memory of his Lord on the Sea of Galilee. Terfel now offers much more than a simple zealot. Kenneth Riegel's Herod is clearly mad from the start, a refugee from *Wozzeck* or *What the Butler Saw*, while Hanna Schwarz's Herodias is chillingly sane as she urges her daughter to ever greater enormities. Among the smaller roles, Kim Begley is outstanding as the soldier Narraboth who has eyes only for Salome.

Someone should surely put this Salome *on video.*

Falstaff shines in living coloratura

OPERA ON VIDEO

John Higgins

■ **VERDI**
Falstaff
Freni/Horne/Lopardo/ Plishka/Pola/Metropolitan Orchestra/ Levine
DG 072 434-1
LaserDisc 072 434-3
(two discs)

DEUTSCHE Grammophon takes a seat-in-the-stalls view of *Falstaff*. Everything is faithfully recorded: dimming house lights, curtain calls and the applause, even when it interrupts the music. Fortunately it is one of the Met's very best productions, with a cast to match.

Franco Zeffirelli has lived for a long time with Verdi's final opera and this may be his last word. His sets are lavish, but the production never descends into pure extravagance, except perhaps when Nannetta (alias the Fairy Queen) enters on a white stallion in the last scene. Everything is scrupulously detailed, exquisitely lit and a visual pleasure.

Paul Plishka takes the title role in robust style. His favourite position is half recumbent, whether at the Garter Inn or *chez* Alice Ford, to give his pot belly a rest. But Plishka, with a constant twinkle beneath his bushy eyebrows, never overdoes things. As Brian Large's camera ranges over his face, lined with experience and ending in a nose the colour of a Victoria plum, the impression is left of a rascal to grace any pub inglenook.

Horne: partner in plotting

Falstaff gets his punishment for daring to take on a pack of Windsor wives as redoubtable as those at the Met. Mirella Freni's Alice may look a bit matronly, but she does have a marriageable daughter. Her saucer eyes fairly bubble with fun and so does her soprano. Marilyn Horne's Mistress Quickly, equally fond of drink and duplicity, is her partner in plotting together with Susan Graham's disarming Meg.

The young lovers could hardly be bettered. Barbara Bonney's Nannetta is every inch her mother's daughter, with her blonde curls and her vocal vivacity, and an accomplished horsewoman, too. Frank Lopardo gives Fenton proper weight after some recent spindly tenors in the part. Only Bruno Pola's rather overwrought Ford is disappointing. The admirably clear soundtrack favours the voices over the orchestra, but this does not prevent James Levine pointing up Verdi's orchestral jokes. Highly recommended.

☐ **MOZART**
Don Giovanni
Grümmer/della Casa/ Siepi/Edelmann/ Vienna Philharmonic/ Furtwängler
DG 072 440-3

THIS is how the Salzburg Festival was, 40 years ago. Herbert Graf chose the Felsenreitschule, not the most tractable of spaces. But the stone colonnades have their uses in an opera with a good deal of eavesdropping. The whole performance could well have been lit specially for film: the visuals are sharp, but the soundtrack, despite digital remastering, remains muzzy. This does not help Furtwängler and the Vienna Philharmonic, who are only occasionally allowed to breathe hell-fire into Mozart. The conductor, seen briefly in the pit, looks as ramrod stiff as the Stone Guest himself.

The video is cherishable for two supreme performances. Siepi in 1954 was in his mid-thirties and had the figure and dash of a Basil Rathbone fencing for Hollywood. Add a plume in his cap, an ear-ring in the left lobe and a hand on the hip and here is the archetypal seducer. The voice was pure velvet, one to make chambermaids come running from their balconies. Otto Edelmann's Leporello, a toad-like lackey with hunched shoulders, relishes all the disasters that occur, especially those to Elvira.

That role is taken by Lisa della Casa, in place of Schwarzkopf, who sang it at the festival. Della Casa was Salzburg's reigning Strauss soprano at the time and she is a little staid, but vocally much more agreeable than Grümmer's strident Anna or Erna Berger's tweety Zerlina. Anton Dermota's high quality Ottavio makes this very much a male-dominated *Giovanni*.

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **DOHNANYI**
Two Piano Quintets
Vanbrugh Quartet/Roscoe
ASV CD DCA 915★★★

PIANIST Martin Roscoe is a tireless champion of Erno Dohnányi, the Hungarian pianist and composer who was responsible both for the famous *Nursery-Rhyme Suite* and, in large part, for reconstructing his country's musical life after the First World War. Roscoe has already recorded the Piano Concertos (for Hyperion) and the solo piano works for ASV. Now, with the excellent Vanbrugh Quartet, he restores the Piano Quintets to the catalogue.

The voice of Brahms hums gently through the earlier Budapest work of 1895, with its brisk morning walk of an opening movement, a scherzo which buzzes with cross-rhythms and a finale whose frisky asymmetry at last gives the work its Magyar signature. This is buoyant playing, gleefully alive to every detail.

The Vanbrugh Quartet and Roscoe enjoy no less the sharper rhythmic teeth and more searching harmonic language of the Second Quintet. The two works are separated by Roscoe's affectionate and accomplished performance of the *Suite in the Old Style*, a set of Baroque miniatures, magnified through a decidedly Romantic lens.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **BEETHOVEN**
Violin Concerto; Romances Nos 1 & 2
Accardo/La Scala Philharmonic/Giulini
Sony SK 53287★★

CARLO Maria Giulini continues his traversal of the classics in live performances with this new recording of Beethoven's Violin Concerto. The soloist is his compatriot, Salvatore Accardo.

As the *tutti* of the first movement gets under way, clearly defined and heavily articulated, it is evident that this is to be a characteristically purposeful reading from Giulini. The *tuttis* throughout the movement have a grand sweep, an aristocratic, almost monumental quality, complemented by Accardo's thoughtful, ably executed account of the solo part. Flights of lyricism are always underpinned by a deliberate tread. Indeed, the ear occasionally begins to tire of what can sound like ponderousness.

Giulini: purposeful

Accardo's tone in the Larghetto is not always ideally steady, but this leisurely paced, serious reading is all of a piece with the rest. The Rondo, too, is robust and weighty, and here especially one feels the need for more air, more humanity to lighten an impressive but unsmiling performance.

☐ **MENDELSSOHN**
String Symphonies Nos 9, 10 & 12
Budapest Strings/Botvay
Capriccio 10 588★★

FOR more than a century the astonishingly accomplished symphonies written by the youthful Mendelssohn were ignored. Only in recent decades have the 13 symphonies for string orchestra, composed by him between the ages of 12 and 14, been resurrected and performed. Though clearly influenced by the Viennese Classical style, and in places the music of Bach and Handel, these works are full of imaginative and individual touches.

The finale of No 12 in G Minor recalls Mozart's late symphony in the same key almost to the point of parody, while the Andante combines neo-Baroque counterpoint with wonderfully serene, lyrical writing. The Budapest Strings are at their most captivating here, but they play with style and zest throughout, and fully project the virile contrapuntal activity in No 9 in C Major, not least in the exuberant finale, which looks forward a couple of years to the Octet.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **MARIAN & JIMMY McPARTLAND**
A Sentimental Journey
The Jazz Alliance
TJA-10025★★

MARIAN McPartland's most beguiling attribute is not so much a light touch at the keyboard — subtle though that is — as her ability to leap from one musical setting to another without losing her step. Her long-running programme on American public radio, *Piano Jazz*, has obviously nourished her eclectic tastes, allowing her to keep abreast of modern schools while simultaneously reaching back into the past.

Variety of tone is the principal asset of *A Sentimental Journey*, which consists of two live dates from the early 1970s, both recorded in the company of her husband, the ebullient cornet player Jimmy McPartland. Half a century after he occupied Bix Beiderbecke's chair in the Wolverines, McPartland was still playing with gusto, even though some of the veneer had worn away. Vic Dickenson and Buddy Tate lend their considerable weight to one session; the other is graced by the elegant clarinet of Jack Maheu.

With both McPartlands at the helm, the programme could be relied upon to flit across the decades rather than adhere exclusively to pure Dixieland. *Royal Garden Blues* opens up sturdy collective improvising, *Basin Street Blues* is fleshed out with Jimmy McPartland's gravelly vocals and *Willow Weep For Me* blossoms into a delicate and ruminative piano solo. Maheu contributes an impassioned solo on *Blue Prelude*.

POP SINGLE

David Sinclair

■ **THE SILENCERS**
Wild Mountain Thyme
Permanent PERM 23★★

"I'VE always seen the Silencers as an electric Scottish folk band in the same way that the Byrds, the Grateful Dead or R.E.M. are electric American folk bands," says singer and guitarist Jimme O'Neill, a man evidently not given to underestimating his group's place in the scheme of things. But listening to *Wild Mountain Thyme* you can hear what he means.

From its unpromising origins as the soundtrack of a Scottish Tourist Board television advertisement, this recording has taken on a peculiar magic of its own. An old song, written in the 1940s by the McPeake Family, which marries an ancient Irish melody to a traditional Scottish poem, it has that marvellously evocative, Celtic quality, conjuring visions of windswept moors, whisky in the jar and sad, post-festive farewells; a credible equivalent of *Mull Of Kintyre*, if you will.

POP ALBUM

David Sinclair

■ **STEVIE WONDER**
Conversation Peace
Motown 530 238★★

AS with Bob Dylan, the gulf between Stevie Wonder's towering past achievements and diminished contemporary appeal is virtually unbridgeable. The dilemma is reflected by the eight-year hiatus between his last proper album, *Characters* (which did not even reach the Top 30 in Britain), and *Conversation Peace*. For if Wonder is still striving to make an album that bears comparison with classics such as *Talking Book* or *Songs In The Key Of Life*, it is going to take a very long time.

Conversation Peace, inevitably, is not in that league, but nor is it blighted by any of the sentimental guff which became his calling card in the 1980s, when duets with Paul McCartney and Julio Iglesias were the order of the day.

Stepping out with the new jack swing of *Rain Your Love Down*, the album has a brisk, confident feel, and tracks such as *Cold Chill*, with its shuffling funk rhythm, and *Sensuous Whisper*, a striding jazz groove featuring saxophonist Branford Marsalis and the appropriately sensuous voice of Anita Baker, have a modern, streetwise sheen.

Wonder: substantial work

Wonder's philosophy remains one of upbeat, childlike innocence: "Reach your arms out and hug someone/Be it king or some homeless one/We are all one underneath the sun," he sings in *Take The Time Out*.

But despite this credulous streak and a handful of regrettably slushy ballads, he still shows himself capable of some impressive leaps of the imagination, notably on *My Love Is With You*, a neat funk item with a spooky percussion intro, which is a first-person narrative told from the perspective of a young man who has been killed in the crossfire of a gang shoot-out.

The songs are all on the long side, and there is a dearth of truly memorable choruses. But once inflated expectations and historical comparisons are set aside, *Conversation Peace* stands as a substantial piece of work which deserves a fair hearing at the very least.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

DREAM ON RADIO 3.

Fairest Isle

ANDREW DAVIS' SOLD OUT PERFORMANCE OF ELGAR'S **'THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS'**
IS BROADCAST ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH AT 9:55PM.

An English country garden in France

Graham Rose on the challenge of managing a garden 800 miles away

GRAHAM ROSE

The name of the property, Le Pourcairou, means piglet. But a sculpted fountain depicting a wild boar, apparently bursting through a stone wall, was thought more dignified

The "Lepidus" masquarade

I pity people with only one gardener. We have 13, plus a foreman. They are vital because they make our blitzkrieg approach to gardening possible. This is not quite as outrageous as it sounds. The garden is near Carcassonne in southern France, and we can get there for only shortish spells. That's why we need Jacques Gasc and his team from an organisation called CERS (Centre d'Evaluation des Resources Social).

Trained in both horticulture and psychiatric social medicine, M Gasc supervises the activities of his group of braves, who have found life too difficult and who have been gently nudged towards the therapy of gardening as one way of refinding a role in society and restoring their self-respect.

Four strimmers whine, two big power-mowers roar, a hedge-trimmer chatters, four backpack-sprayers spurt and two rakers-up run after the mowers like terriers chasing a rabbit breaking out of corn.

When the team arrives, wild grape vines, overhanging branches and wild oats choke nearly a kilometre of alleys; a curtain of weeds hides the perennials flowering in gravel beds in the courtyards; the wildflower meadow has developed into a daunting, shoulder-high wilderness; and yards of vital wind-screening hedge are as dishevelled and spikey as a punk-rocker's head. When the gardeners drive away two days later, perfect order has been restored, revealing the form and features planned when the garden was designed 15 years ago.

Their work allows my wife and our volunteer holiday-making friends to attend to the minutiae in the garden; summer pruning, deadheading, fine weeding and so on. A repeat visit from the CERS team in early autumn maintains the picture until the abandoned look becomes re-established in winter.

What the work of M Gasc's team reveals is really more of a park than a garden, because it is difficult to garden conventionally from more than 800 miles away. Herbaceous plants are confined to beds in a gravelled courtyard close to the house. They are mostly subjects with a proven record for being able to withstand long periods of very hot, dry weather. Lavenders, santolinas, pinks, cinerarias, ballotas, artemesia, cordylines and yuccas predominate.

The house and its annexe and the courtyard walls support climbers such as *Clematis armandii*, jasmines, wisteria, passion flowers and the trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans* 'Madame Galen'), which both soften the look of the masonry and perfume the air. We rely on wild flowers in the meadow, and ornamental trees, shrubs and roses for most of the colour elsewhere.

When mature, the new shrubbery will further hide a "secret place"

It was clear from the outset that, without being there to look after them, the range of plants we could grow on the calcareous clay in an area subject to long, very hot and dry periods, tempestuous winds and occasional hard frosts, would be limited. As is often the case, it was the place that told us which plants would tolerate the fairly inhospitable conditions we offered. Among these there were some good and bad surprises.

Several attempts to raise bougainvillea failed. The winter of 1983 turned the supposedly hardy 'Four Seasons' mimosa into something resembling charcoal. The same bleak days dispatched an olive tree, for which I had paid £110 as a ten-year-old grown in a container. Forty escallonia, which I drove from London to Torquay to collect, didn't survive their first winter. Collecting six evergreen false beech *(Nothofagus dombeyi)*, with which to make a high screen hedge, involved a 1,200-mile return trip to Crarae on the far side of Loch Fynne in Argyll. The beeches didn't last a summer. About 70 of the 100 pencil cypresses *(Cupressus sempervirens)* we planted to help to make tall, screening hedges against the wind along the perimeter of the garden, collapsed after becoming infected with phytopthora disease, which is transmitted by meally bug, is difficult to control, has wiped out many of the beautiful pencil cypresses in Italy and is now spreading northwards.

There were, however, great compensations. After a slow start, lines of dark evergreen *Eleagnus* x *ebbingei*, with tiny white flowers, have developed into fragrant hedges and are among our greatest successes. The related *E. angustifolia*, the Bohemian olive, has proved a fine substitute for the real thing, and when the wind ruffles its silvery foliage the whole place looks like a painting by Van Gogh.

The much-abused Leyland cypresses have provided the tall, wind screen we needed. A copse of the strongly resinous umbrella pine *Pinus pinea*, the heavily scented, creamy flowered *Pittosporum tobira*, the sun roses and, above all, the David Austin New English roses — notably the pink 'Mary Rose' and the yellow 'Graham Thomas' — have all done well.

Not many of the species of wildflower sown initially have survived, but nature has played her role in enriching the meadow with wild orchids, such as the purple, the bee orchid and the exquisite, tiny, purple-flowered species gladiolus.

With such a limited spectrum of plants available to us, we have had to resort to creating artefacts to increase the interest of the garden. This is a technique which I call "giggle gardening". Mementoes of events and personalities who have peopled the region can greatly increase the pleasure of a garden tour.

The jokes began when we wanted to re-interpret the name of the property. The smallest homestead for miles around, it has been called Le Pourcairou since before the Revolution. In Occitone, the local cross between the French and Catalan languages, it means piglet. I didn't think that was dignified enough for the gardening correspondent of *The Sunday Times* and decided to translate it as baby wild boar, because they breed like mosquitoes in the woods on the hillside opposite. To emphasise the change, we asked the young sculptor Harry Carter Jonas to carve us a stone wild boar, which has been set to appear as though it is bursting through the courtyard wall. In anticipating the feast on our plants, water dribbles like saliva from its tongue into a basin made of the fragments of broken masonry from the wall.

We thought it essential to placate Marcus Lepidus, who was the first governor of Roman Provence. But he proved hard to find. So we settled for a simulated marble bust of Septimius Severus, found in a Brighton antique shop. Now that he has been treated with a variety of paints to simulate bronze, few passing tractor drivers will know that he is not Lepidus. He was given a prominent niche in a gazebo with a Roman-tiled roof, and guards a small showcase containing fragments of Roman pottery, a lump of the Berlin Wall and a tiny cobble from the Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede, Surrey.

If "Lepidus" glanced half left, he could peer into a sunken theatre we built with a semi-circle of seats made from paving stones. The gaps between the slabs are filled with miniature thymes and lavenders. The plebs in the tier above are represented by small, ball-headed box backed by further tiers of sun roses and Portugese laurel, all overhung by umbrella pines.

To the hard left, the governor peers down a long alley to a hexagonal temple. With simple columns and an iron cupola, it has been planted with climbers, and, when it shelters a column topped with a spherical glass mirror, will be dedicated to Helios, the god who lured us south. The temple, which is set in the furthest corner of the garden, is reached along the Via Sacra, a gravelled path overhung by a 19-metre curved pergola, which supports climbing versions of the old French roses. These supplied many of the genes that David Austin incorporated into his New English roses, which dominate the rose garden beyond the pergola.

A new shrubbery is being planted to one side of the rose garden and, when it matures, will completely hide a circle of laurels which, in turn, enclose a neatly groomed circular hedge of *Viburnum tinus*. This secret place is a memorial to the gardener Lawrence Johnston, a very private man who created the great garden at Hidcote in Gloucestershire. It has at its heart a repaired finial, which I was given. It used to sit on a gatepost at Hidcote.

Across an alley from Johnston's finial is another memorial: a raised basin with water lilies, a lotus and goldfish enclosed by a half hexagonal wall, the middle segment of which is an arcade with shady seating under a Roman-tiled roof. The other side of the pool is sheltered by a semi-circular hedge of pencil cypresses. The whole commemorates the Cathar heretics who were burnt a few miles away. Relief sculptures I made of St Dominic, who preached against them; Simon de Montfort, who crusaded against them; and the gallant Count Raymond of Toulouse, who subscribed to their heresy and led them in battle, are set in the hexagonal wall. Appropriately, some may think, the features of the heroic Count Raymond are modelled on my own.

George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, tackles those soggy patches of grass

How to put life into your lawn

The best advice about lawns for the past few months has been to keep off them. But this is not always possible, especially in a small garden, even when the lawn is saturated. The area of the lawn beside our washing-line is a good example: bare and muddy from being constantly walked over, compacting the earth and scuffing up the winter-weary grass.

Action is needed and, although autumn is usually the season for in-depth lawncare, if you do something about it now you will reap the rewards in coming years.

Constant rain over the past few months has put great demands on lawn drainage. At worst, big puddles linger for a couple of days after heavy rain, but aeration can alleviate the problem. For small patches, this can be done with a garden fork, digging in the tines and jiggling them about. The job is best finished off by dropping a small amount of sharp sand into the holes. Drawn into the soil, the sand will improve natural drainage.

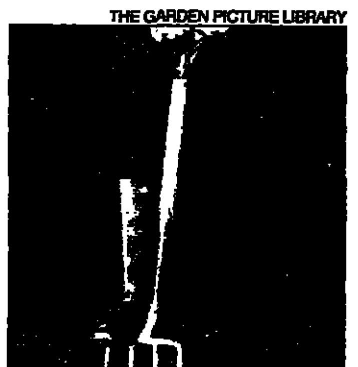
Aerating by fork is hard work and soon loses its appeal. Even if your lawn is small, it is worth hiring a manual lawn-spiker, which is pulled along behind you. Between the machine's two wheels, a rotating drum has a series of spikes which pierce the ground. The machines are available from hire firms for £5 to £10 a day (motorised models, which cost a lot more, are unnecessary unless you have a large area to cover).

Aeration also helps to discourage leather-jackets, which thrive in poorly drained lawns. Flocks of starlings pecking into your lawn are after these crane-fly larvae, which eat the roots of grass. Cold weather keeps them under control but this winter's mild, wet conditions encouraged the larvae, and groups of starlings have been industriously working my lawn during the past few weeks.

In many parts of the country, grass has become lank and deficient in nutrients, because of the relatively warm winter. As a result, perhaps the most productive piece of spring lawncare is the application of feed. Organic lawn feeds are available in dry, powdery form that you spread by hand and then rake in, or liquids that you dilute and apply with a watering-can and rose. (A 5kg bag of Chase Lawn Fertiliser, which should be applied at about 5oz per sq yd, costs £7.81 from the Organic Gardening Catalogue.)

A primary ingredient for lawn-feeding in spring should be nitrogen, which encourages leafy growth (and which you avoid using in any lawn feed or top-dressing in the autumn). Leave scarifying the lawn until later in the year, when the ground is drier and the grass stronger and less likely to be torn up by the rake. You will be surprised by the amount of moss, weeds and straggly grass this pulls out for you to barrow away; it also levels out wormcasts and minor indentations made during the winter.

THE GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY


Aerating and draining by fork

Do not be alarmed if your lawn seems to be all moss and no grass. At this time of year moss has been thriving through weeks of cool, damp weather with little sunlight. You can attack it with a liquid moss-killer, but, if your lawn is not heavily shaded, this may not be necessary. Instead, raking out and encouraging healthy grass growth will enable the grass to overcome the moss, particularly as the days get sunnier.

Bare patches should be regrassed with turf or grass seed. Turf is simple and, for small patches, not too expensive at about £1 per square yard. Seed is cheaper for larger areas and is available in wide variety. Do not be over-ambitious and opt for a top-quality ("bowling-green") mix as this requires constant attention and is not hard wearing.

Before seeding, make a fine tilth and then rake in the seed gently. It will need protection from birds, with cotton threaded between sticks, empty yoghurt pots on sticks, or any other alarming features your children will not remove immediately.

British Seed Houses produces a seed called Lawn Restorer, which is designed to regenerate growth on existing lawns. Comprising a similar mix of grass to normal lawn seeds, the restorer is treated to encourage easy germination in ground that has not been worked into a traditional seedbed.

Alternatively, you can make turf briquettes by sowing grass seed into a tray of soil in the greenhouse and letting it mature to sufficient density and root strength before being used to repair your lawn.

All the above lawncare can be done before you start mowing. In fact, it may be a helpful diversion when you are itching to get out the mower but it is still too wet. Cylinder mowers and large-wheeled rotary models should be used with care this spring. Early mowing should always be gentle, trimming the grass and getting it down to the desired length over a period, rather than in one go.

● *For a free copy of the Organic Garden Catalogue, call Chase Organic on 01932 820958 or Ryton Organic Gardens on 01203 303517. For details of British Seed Houses' Lawn Restorer call Paskett PR on 01332 372196.*

Next week: Lawnmowers.

WEEKEND TIPS

- ● *Where necessary, split border perennials, breaking off the outer sections of a clump for replanting and discarding the centre.*
- ● *Small, shrubby perennials, such as lavender and santolina, should be trimmed to encourage dense growth.*
- ● *Sow the seed of half-hardy annuals under glass.*
- ● *When snowdrops have finished flowering but are still showing leaf ("in the green"), lift and divide them, and replant where required.*
- ● *If you want to get on with sowing vegetable seeds but feel the soil is still too wet and cold, start some seeds off by sowing them into trays under glass.*
- ● *Plant summer bulbs such as alliums.*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q **I bought a witch hazel (*Hamamelis*) from a garden centre ten years ago and planted it in plenty of light. But it refuses to grow any taller than 4ft; I understand that normally this shrub will grow to 8ft-10ft. Can you explain this lack of growth? I mulch it with compost occasionally and give it Sequestrene. It looks healthy and flowers every year — exceptionally well in the past year.** — Mrs. C. A. Scott, Norwich.

A I can understand your frustration; it is wonderful to be able to cut a few twigs of witch hazel to bring indoors, for its perfume.

Most witch hazels are produced commercially by grafting, which means that the top of the plant you buy is from an older, flowering specimen and, therefore, your plant will be flowering in the nursery when you buy it and inclined to continue after you plant it. This is why they are expensive. But this also means the plant does not have the vigour a seedling would have for concentrating on making plenty of wood before settling down to flower.

Witch hazels are known for their rather horizontal habit, with long, drooping side branches from a short trunk. In the first few years it is better if they put their energies into growing rather than flowering. A newly planted witch hazel should be fed hard, and really kept moving, not letting it settle down until it has put enthusiastic growth into some (reasonably) upright stems. Then it can settle down to flowering.

If the graft has not been fully successful, the plant can linger on for years, hardly growing, and flowering in desperation until, perhaps, one day the union snaps. Witch hazels dislike badly drained, heavy soils, and are better on a neutral to acid soil. If yours has really grown so little, I would dig it up, make a really big new hole for it enriched with old compost, and re-plant it on a slight mound.

Remember, too, that witch hazels are long-lived and relatively slow growing. A 10ft specimen can be anywhere between 20 and 50 years old. This lack of growth by yours is not uncommon but need not be tolerated.

Q **We planted a *Clematis* 'Lasurstern' some years ago which quickly died on us, although our other clematis do reasonably well. Some forms of *C. viticella*, planted to hide the bare lower stems of a *C. montana*, also died, though this particular bed comprised mostly builder's rubble. The garden generally is on a chalky clay soil. Where did we go wrong?** — Mrs V. Woolf, Petworth, West Sussex.

A Clematis do best in a rich, open-textured soil. *C. montana* (30ft) is tough enough to survive almost anywhere, but to ask the delicate *C. viticella* (6ft-8ft) to grow under a *montana* in builder's rubble is like asking a mouse to tie an elephant's shoe laces on the move; death is almost guaranteed. But don't be put off. What you need to do is make a proper pit when planting something as greedy as a clematis on poor or heavy clay soil. Make a hole at least 2ft deep and wide, more if you can, and fill it with 20 per cent good soil and 80 per cent old garden compost, adding a couple of handfuls of bonemeal.

The plant is going to live there for many a year, and the more you can do to get it off to a rich start the better. Mulch with manure every year, and never let it be short of water in summer.

Q **Ten years ago I planted a Leyland cypress in my garden, to hide a telegraph pole. I planted it close to the pole, which it soon obscured, but two months ago the tree had to come down as its roots were becoming a potential danger to my neighbour's footings. What can I do to disguise the eyesore? I would prefer year round cover.** — Mrs Mary Howell, Ipswich.

A The fastest option for complete cover is to plant another Leyland cypress, and to have it out again when its size becomes a problem. Line the planting hole on the neighbour's side with corrugated iron a few feet from the trunk, to force the roots downwards.

Alternatively, plant a broader but less dense tree, such as a birch, closer to your house, which will hide the pole and wires in summer and give a good screen of twiggery in winter.

● *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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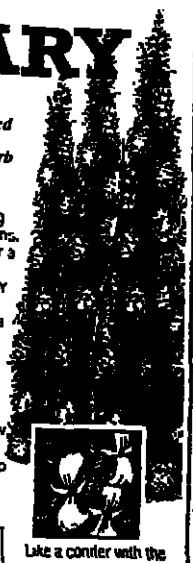

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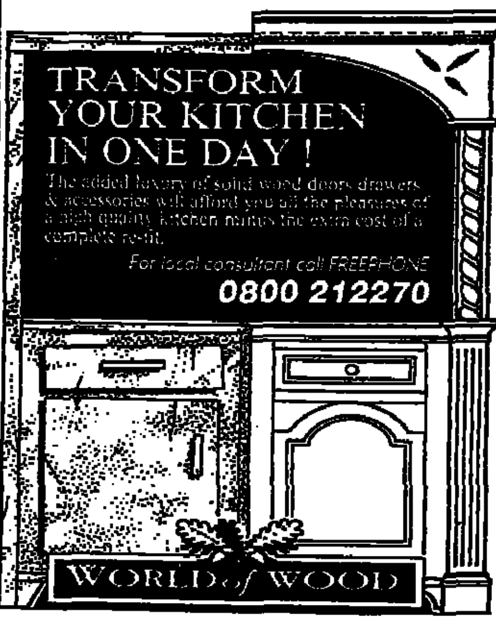

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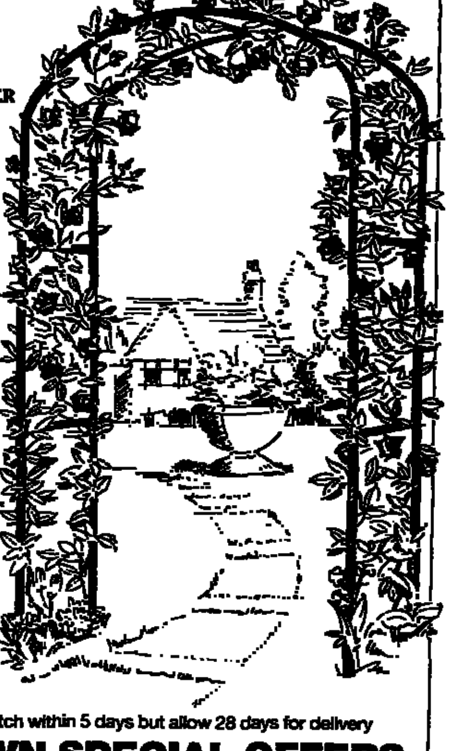

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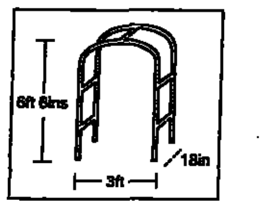

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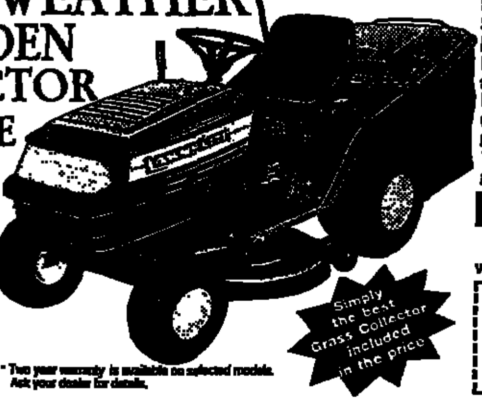

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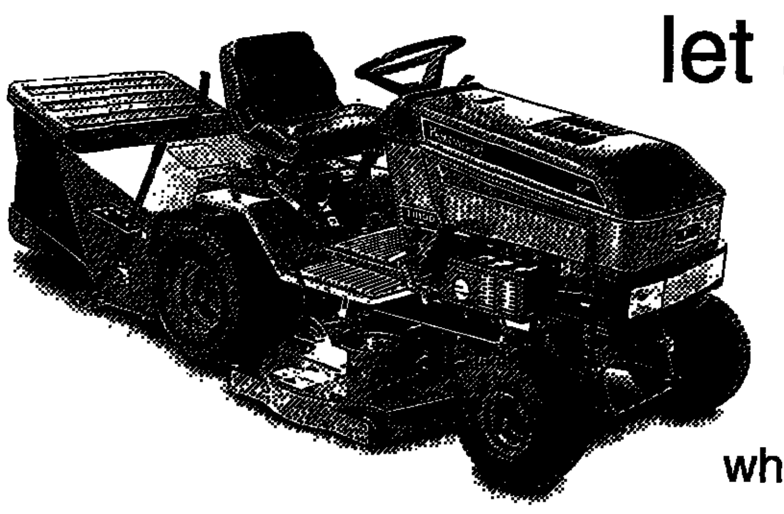

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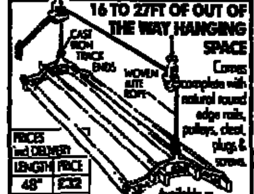

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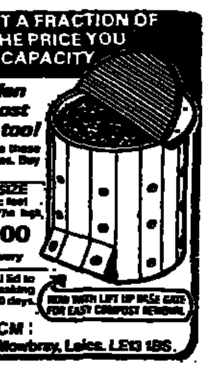

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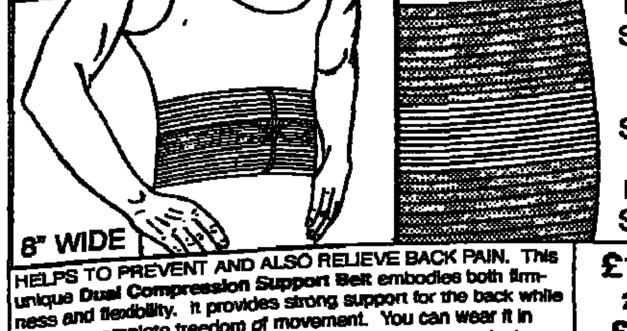

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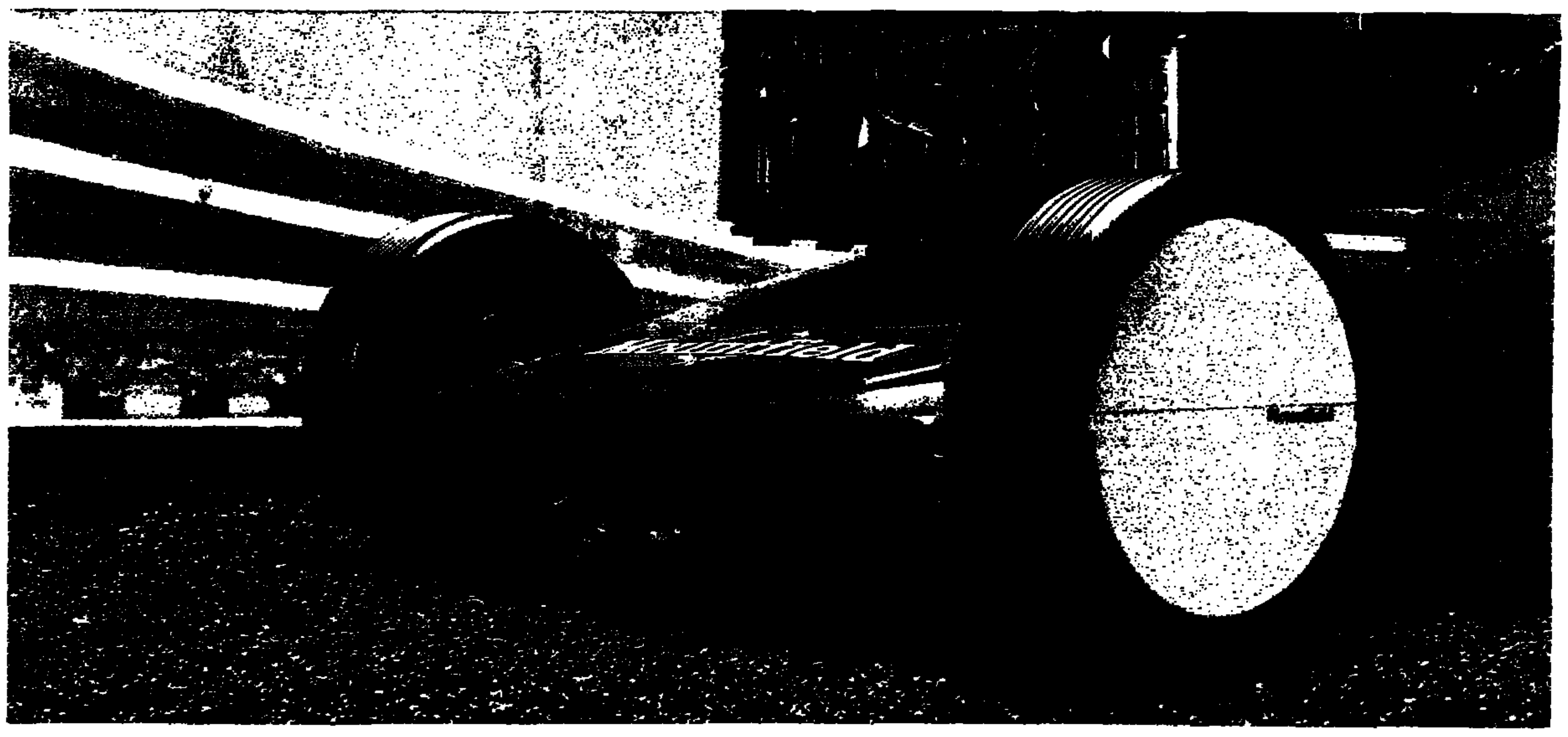

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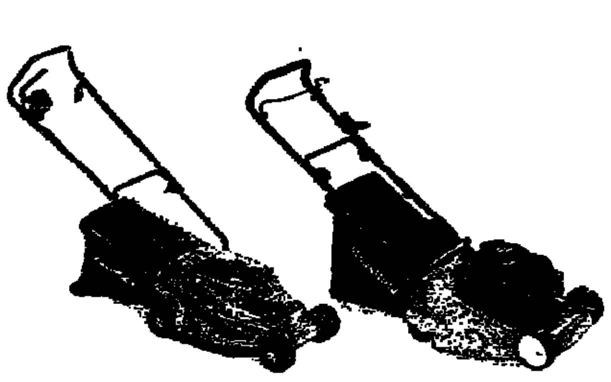

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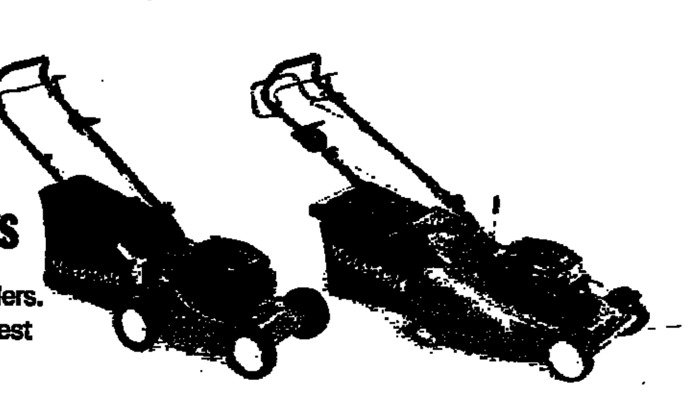

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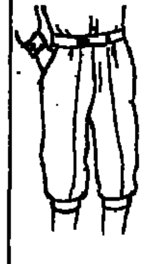

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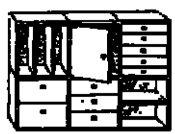

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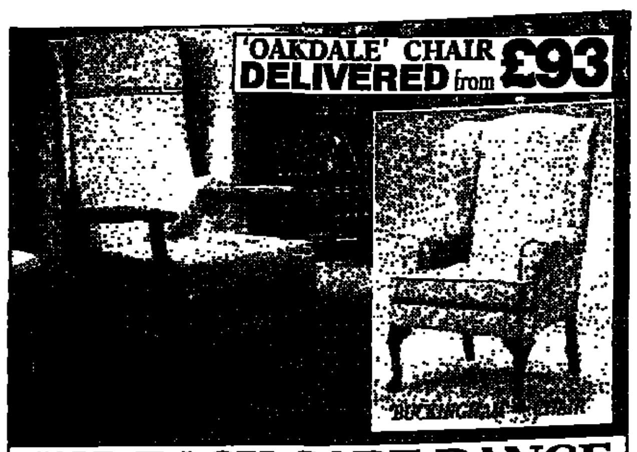

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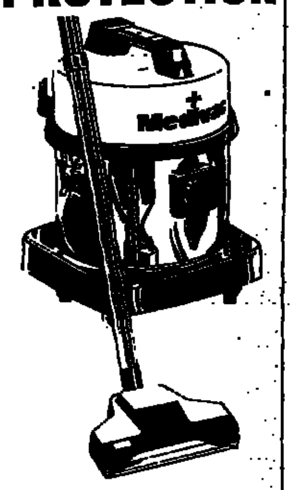

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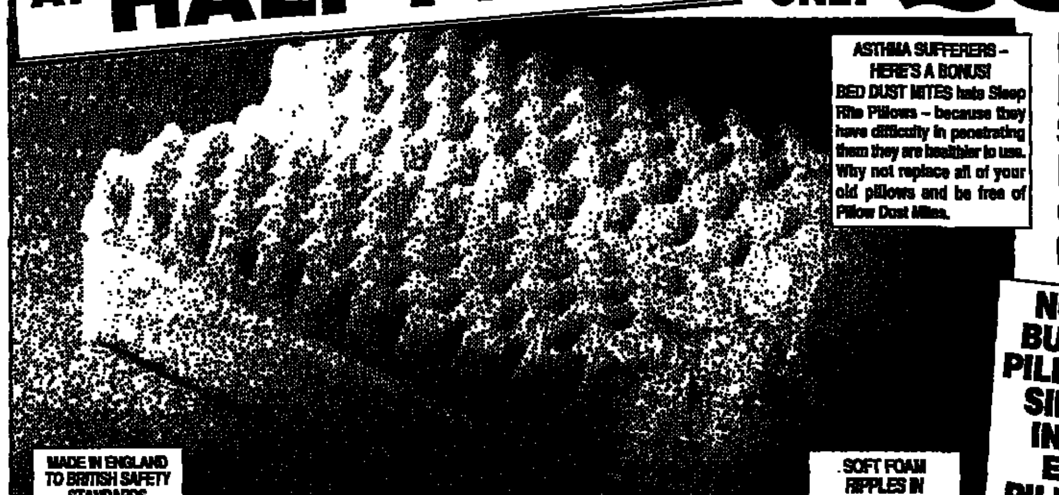

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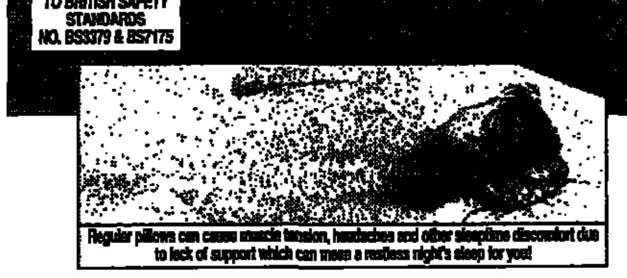

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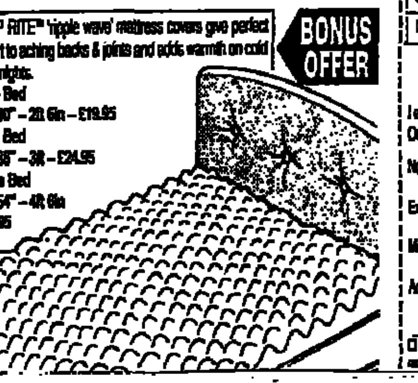

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What do you buy the pet with everything?

Barking bones, ferret shampoos, and fur dyes for starters, says **Jack Crossley**

There'll be around 260 recession-proof traders showing off their gear at an exhibition in Birmingham next month — and consumers are going to *spend £1.5 billion* this year snapping up what's on offer.

If anyone needs convincing that the British are dotty about animals, the Petindex exhibition, for people in the business, not the public, will settle the matter once and for all. Even if you spurn the opportunity to acquire a non-dangerous scorpion as a pet, there is no way you are going to escape falling for some of the *temptations to pamper the* animal in your life.

OK. Not everybody is looking for a diet to improve the colour of their goldfish — but can you rest in peace if you have knowingly deprived your dog of a bone that barks back, or a cat treat that meows?

Is your cat driving you crazy? Does it terrorise the neighbourhood or suffer from anxiety? Try herbal cures, homeopathy and aromatherapy and buy the book that will tell you what to do.

You wouldn't let your dog sleep n a nasty old blanket would you? Not when, for £34.99, you can buy t a miniature car to sleep in. A Cosipet Cosi Car modelled on a Mini: "32in long and 19in wide. Constructed from sturdy, high ensity foam . . . lined in acrylic fur ith removable base cushion."

If there is any money left after uying designer petwear you could tock up on "dyes for that special ccasion when you want to change e colour of your pet to match your wn outfit."

To demonstrate that I am not aking all this up I quote the Case the Green Poodle published in t *Business World* magazine. lited by a lively Scot called argaret Ferris, who pleads guilty christening her moggies Elvis esley and Della Reece.

It concerns a caring photograph- firm — horrified when its veloping process produced eeny shading over a customer's g. By applying the miracles of odern technology, and spending *a great deal of time, the firm got rid* of the green to produce snaps of a white poodle. The owner then complained that she had spent a great deal of her time dying the animal green for a special occasion.

This year's show will reflect *changing tastes in pets. The British love affair with dogs is on the wane, it seems. New figures due out this* month are expected to show that the dog population, which was 7.3 million in 1988, is now around 6.9 million. Cats are taking over: up from 6.7 million to 7.05 million.

But dogs and cats do not have it all their own way at Petindex.

Ferrets are IN (but not, definitely not, in trouser legs. Journalists are asked not to make ferrets-up-trouser-leg jokes. Sorry, but not many of us can resist it.)

Listen to Ms Ferris: "Special food for ferrets is the latest thing," she says. "That's because they are on their way to becoming a popular domestic pet. It has just been discovered that it is fairly easy to de-sex and deodorise them by removing their scent glands. Once that *is* done they make nice pets.

"There is a company about to produce, for the first time, a dry food for ferrets and another doing ferret treats and ferret shampoos. Ferrets cannot eat the same food as other pets because they need a high-protein, low-fibre diet.

"There are also special diets for reptiles — for people who don't *like* feeding chickens and mice to their snakes. And special housing for reptiles, which is equipped with central heating and ventilators.

"Our 260 exhibitors cover the whole spectrum of the pet trade, and the UK is up there on top in international markets. It's a £1.5 billion industry — and growing."

And no wonder, with innovations pouring on to the market as fast as rats up drainpipes (lovable pet rats).

Do you have £250 to spare for an automatic cat lavatory?

Ms Ferris says: "You know these new loos that councils are putting up? You put your money into a Dalek thing and you disappear. There's one for cats now which cleans itself." Or, as the manufacturer of Pussycat's Point delicately puts it: "Pussycat's Point automatically cleans itself after every 'visit' and replenishes its own stock of grit. It is triggered by a sensor and electronically controlled."

No matter how much owners *love their pets, lots of them can be* malodorous at both ends. So special diets are available containing an odour-block extracted from the yucca plant.

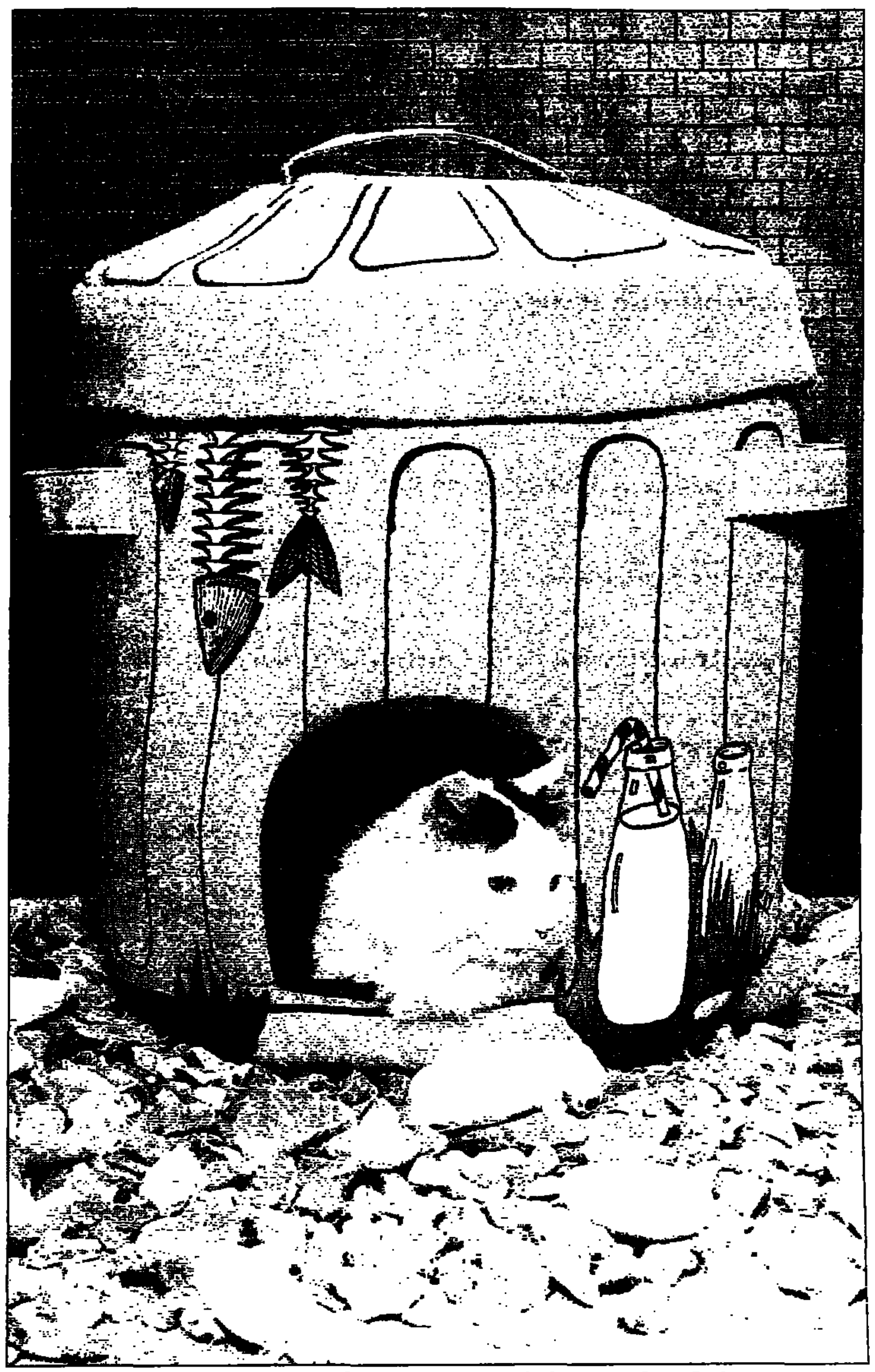
Ms Ferris was going on to tell me of spectacles for pets, car seat belts for dogs, hammocks for hamsters, a Complete Diet on a Stick for cage birds, beef and chicken-flavoured toothpaste and trips to see the birdlife of Australia with a chap called Cockatoo Dundee.

But I had to explain that I had only enough room left for two important announcements. It will be National Pet Week from April 29 to May 8 — and National Worm Awareness Week from April 30 to May 6.

Cosi Car, £34.99, from Cosipet

Pet facts

- ☐ Petindex Exhibition April 23-24 NEC Birmingham. Trade only.
- ☐ *My Cat is Driving Me Crazy* by Grace McHatty and Tim Couzens (Robinson £3.99).
- ☐ Designer Petwear — Cotswold Designs Ltd (01246 582355).
- ☐ Cosipet (01308 868986)
- ☐ Bones that Bite Back — from Instant Gifts (01580 714251).
- ☐ *Pet Business World* magazine (01233 621877).
- ☐ Sherley's Pet Care (01279 506658) is organising National Worm Awareness Week.
- ☐ Automatic cat lavatories and ferret shampoos: Shaw's Pet Products (01296 630121).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NORTH OF THE THAMES

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£348,500 freehold.

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Prices correct at time of going to press

FULHAM SW6
Bishop's Park

Nr river. Classic Vict tce, elegantly updated. Bright, spacious, Dbl recept, modern kit/family rm, 3 beds, bath, shwr, attic, S.facing gdn.

F'hold c£266K. No agents
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NW4

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£63,000
Phone 0171 272 9255

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EARLS COURT SQUARE, SW5 Newly modernised 1 bed flat on 3rd floor of P.B.B. with lift & porter. Quiet square just minutes to transport and amenities. New kitchen, new bathroom, carpets etc. 109 year lease. £95,000. Tel 0494 472736 or 0831 111266.

FULHAM Refurbished house 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, close to Hurlingham. £298,000. Harrington Lowndes 071 736 7272

FULHAM Spacious Vic house 4 beds, 2 baths. £213,500 Harrington Lowndes 071 736 7272

HYDE PARK MANSIONS NW1. 1st floor unmodernised 5 rooms, K&B. £140,000. Granvilles 071 221 4938.

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 071 289 1692

MAIDA VALE Choice of 2 bed flats at £128,500 & £134,950 Sandfords 071 723 9988

MODERN Freehold townhse. garage.2 receps, 4 beds, 2 baths, WC, kit / breakfast room, gdn. £258,000 STC. CKA. 071 823 6923

OXFORD GARDENS W10 Studio apt. separate gallery sleeping area. hall, storage. kit/b'fast. bth. Share of freehold. £66,000 Duncan Allen 0171 407 2790

REGENTS PK 3 bed 2 bath flat elegant portered blk. £169,950 Sandfords 071 723 9988

STAINES AREA 6-bed det riverside property , o'lkng the Thames. 2 garages. Three 1 dble bedrm Granny flats £295,500 f/hld. Sole Agents Woods & Co 01895 622080

SUTHERLAND PLACE, W2. 5 storey period house with 6 beds, study. W. Fac. Terr and elegant drawing room. OIRO £550,000. Leslie Marsh & co 0171 221 4805

THREE bed mais in immac cond. Good size recep. kit-break. Two dbl beds, one single. £190,000 Carter Griffin May 0171 376 3726.T

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W HAMPSTEAD grand flat gge 4 bed 2 rec 2 bth £275,000 Sandfords 071 723 9988

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

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Spacious detached family house in elevated position enjoying panoramic views. Large drawing room, sun room, dining room, luxury hand built kitchen with granite worktops and French terracotta floor, utility room. 4 bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, w.c and sauna, Victorian style hand built mahogany family bathroom with roll top cast iron bath, *Garage, shed and greenhouse.* Gas central heating and double glazing.

£210,000
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After 3.30 pm

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Superb Vict. Family Hse on Quiet Rd.
Near Clapham Common

V.Spacious & light with original features. Double Reception. Lge Kitch/Dining Rm, 4 beds, Huge Loft with dormer windows, 2 baths, guest w.c., cellar, 35ft lawned garden.

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Victorian semi-detached house. 4 bed, 2 bath (1 en-suite), 1 sep WC, 3 recep, large attic for conversion. Off street parking. 45ft garden.

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081 674 3466.

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SOUTH OF THE THAMES

SW12

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£125,000
081 675 8210.

WANDSWORTH COMMON SW11

Victorian family house in quiet tree lined road yards from common. 2/3 receps, kit/b'fast room, 5/6 beds, 2 baths, cellar garden

£325,000
Tel 071 228 7316

BARNES Charming period house opposite the Green & near the pond. 3 receps, kit/brk rm. util. 3/4 beds, 2 baths + det dble gge & s/c studio flat. £399,000. Allen Briegel 081-392 1635

BATTERSEA PARK (near to) spacious family home having undergone considerable prof refurbishment. Poss to customise to purchasers requirements. £285,000 f/h 081 944 6633 (T)

PUTNEY Attractive period house with flexible accomm presently arranged as 2 receps. large kit/brk rm. 4 beds, bath & shwr + s/c flat with kit & shwr. O/S parking. Sunny gdn. £340,000. Allen Briegel 081-780 0077

PUTNEY 3 bedrm terrace hse. quiet road. many original features. sth facing gdn. £172,000 Tel 0181 874 8411 owner.

PUTNEY Beautiful raised gr flr. 2 bed flat o/looking river in sought after Edwardian block. 99yrs. £126K. 081 789 0764.

SHEEN Clse Richmond Pk. An Edwardian character hse with scope for loft conversion & sep annexe/studio. Hall. 3 receps. kit. util rm. clk rm. cellar. 4 beds, bath. GCH. 98ft gdn. 2 gges + OSP. FH £329,950. Sun view 081 878 0739 thereafter Michael Gregory 081 392 2217

TONSLEYS SW18. Alma Rd Newly mod Vict cottage. double recep. kit. 2 beds. large bthrm. Garden. £149,500. F/H. Bramford Rd. Attractive Vict cottage double recep. kit/breakfast rm. 2 beds. spacious bthrm. garden. £157,500. F/H. Dalby Rd. Vict cottage open plan recep. kit. 2 beds. large bthrm. W. facing garden. £153,500 F/H. Realm Estates. Sunday only 081-874 4372. Mon-Sat 871 2633

BELGRAVIA & KNIGHTSBRIDGE

ELIZABETH STREET BELGRAVIA SW1

Rare opportunity to acquire F/h terraced house, close Chester Square. 5 floors + *considerable potential for* further enhancement. P/p to extend existing attic floor creating a family house comprising: 4 beds, 3 recs, 2 baths, clk, kit/brk. Rear sth west fcng gdn together with a lower ground floor staff flat. Offers excess £425,000 for freehold interest.

BARTHOLOMEWS
0171 351 9605

CITY & WEST END

BARBICAN Recently redec'd 4 bed 5th floor flat. 24 hr porter. £175,000. Frank Harris & Co City Office 0171 600 7000

COMMUTERS...We have a wide range of flats for sale in the City from £55,000. For our March list contact Frank Harris & Co City Office 0171 600 7000

OFF PORTMAN SQUARE, W1 3 bed penthouse with terrace and underground parking. Lease: 71 years : £510,000 Andre Lanauvre 071 289 5233

PRICE Reduction Barbican 1st floor 1 bed flat south facing dble balcony £92,500. Frank Harris & Co City Office 0171 600 7000

DULWICH

W. DULWICH

F/H house. 3 bed. Edwardian terrace in quiet street. Many original features. Good decoration throughout. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room, two w/c's, *bathroom, 2 receptions.* utility room. Neat garden front and rear. Patio, GCH, new roof.

Freehold £142,500
Tel 081 761 7743

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Bright and beautifully presented studio flat newly dec (15'7x14'11 studio room) off Queensgate nearby Old Brompton Road £89,500

Telephone 071 260 2926/071 *225 2841 eve and w/ends*

LARGE COMFORTABLE FAMILY FLAT, W14

In attractive Edwardian Mansion block. Quiet street. Spacious rooms with high ceilings. Lots of character & original features. Very light & sunny. 3rd floor with lift & porter.

98 year lease.

Accomodation: 4/5 bedrooms, 2/3 recep, 2 bath. Impressive hallway. Private sale, No agents.

Offers over £250,000 for a quick sale.

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PERFECT FAMILY HOUSE

Sunny Victorian terraced house, stripped floors, high ceilings. Large kitchen/dining rm, nursery, 30 ft dble sitting rm, office (bedrm 4), 2 bathrms, masterbedrm & 2 further bedrms, cellar, garden. Nr. Ken High St, easy access M4/3,40.

£375,000.
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INVERNESS GARDENS, W8

The nicest one bedroomed flat in London? Upper Grd floor in white stucco house, 1 bedrm, 1 recep, 1 bath, b'fasting kitchen, communal garden

£205,000
0378 186628

CHELSEA CLOISTERS Sloane Ave 1 bed apts. For sale from £110,000 Tel:071 584 5004.

HOLLAND PARK, W11. Unusual and interesting 5 storey dbl fronted hse occupying a west facing corner plot. with one principle room on each floor. Stripped floors. good natural light. £650,000. Leslie Marsh and Co. 0171 221 4805

HOME HUNTING No time to look? Consult property professionals Ivan Rose 071 225 1469

KENSINGTON COURT - 2 bed, 1 bath 1st flr - lse 110 yrs £195,000 ono 071 581 0333 t

PROPERTY FIND - Property Search Services. Tel :071 584 5004.

TWO bed flat in good cond. Fitted kit, good size recept. £135,000 Carter Griffin May 0171 376 3726.T

WESTMINSTER

HATHAWAYS: Buckingham Gate top floor views across St James Park. 2 bed. 1 reception. balcony. 67 yrs OIRO £185,000 77. Buckingham Gate SW1. 0171 222 3133

HAMPSTEAD & HIGHGATE

HIGHGATE VILLAGE Highwood Lodge. newly built detached house. 2 bed. gge. sun terrace. £240,000. Tel 0181 340 0003

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

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£239,950
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DORA ROAD SW19

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£275,000

No chain
Tel . 081 946 6752.
(Eves/w'ends). No agents.

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There are 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (one en-suite), large lounge, dining room , large sunny kitchen-breakfast room, cloakroom and entrance hall, with GCH and burglar alarm installed.

There is considerable scope for extension, to create a magnificent home on an exceptional site.

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4 ACRES - MARINA POOL

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COTSWOLDS

EASTLEACH Lovely grade 2. 17C. 2 bed detached cotswold cottage in beautiful unspoilt village. £149,950. 01367 850469

DEVON & CORNWALL

S. CORNWALL

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TORQUAY Superb ground floor period 3 bed apt in Regency villa set in beautiful private park & gdns. Parking & garaging. 5 mins to Marina & coast. £180,000. Tel 01392 499699 T

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NORFOLK - THE OLD DRYING HOUSE

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Property includes two tidal slipways, work shop, showroom, offices. Long lease. Suitable for chandlery, brokerage, boat building, sales etc. Over 8,000 sq ft, including 4,700 covered.

Contact Paul Lemmer
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£155,000 ono
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HERTFORDSHIRE

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Substantial desirable 1930's detached family house, 3 dble bs, farmhouse kitchen with Aga, sitt rm, 2 recep, GCH, open fires, garage. Mature ½ acre plot. Easy access London.

£190,000.

0923 261672. No chain.

NEAR ROYSTON

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KENT

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Quiet, pretty locality. Det elegt Georgian Style, modern, mat garden, dble Gge, parking. 4 ... (1 ensuite) Bath, Cloaks, lnge, drawing room, DR, f/f kitchen utility. 9mx3m conservatory. ... glazed throughout. For quick sale (no chain) £115,000

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London 1 hour M20/Longfields, flint stone beamed cottage 18... Everyone's dream house, elevated position in 2/3 acre. Delight... rural situation, close to N... London Golf Club. 3 bedroo... extensively renovated. Plann... permission for extension.

Offers over £178,000
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CHISLEHURST KENT

Unique 4 bed, split lev. hse, sought after conservation are...

CAMDEN PARK ROA

Lg attrac lng, Dng rm, Study, ... Kit, Uty rm. 2 bth, 1 e/s. Sh... Many features. GCH. Built '72 gdn all round, htd swim pool, garage. FH £350,000.

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OIRO £250,000.
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Second home, second income

Jackdaw Cottage in the Cotswolds is £350-£545 a week. depending on the time of year (Rural Retreats)

Owning a second home in the country to use for weekends and holidays is an appealing idea. But how many people these days can afford to take on a second mortgage. fork out for another set of furniture and equipment, and pay two sets of bills?

According to cottage holiday specialists, Rural Retreats, the notion that a country cottage can earn its keep is gaining popularity, as investors move into the second-home market, taking advantage of low property prices and attractive mortgage deals.

The theory is that a restored two-bedroom cottage in Dorset, for example, would cost about £80.000. If let for 30 weeks a year (the average occupancy rate for Rural Retreat's portfolio), it would gross £16.000 in rent. After running costs and management fees are deducted — about 50 per cent of the rental — about £8.000 remains, enough to cover a £60.000 mortgage.

Not just any property will do, however. Obviously, the location must be right, preferably within a two-and-a-half hour drive of London or another major city; easy access should produce a good level of occupancy, even in the winter months. Dorset. Devon, Suffolk, Norfolk, the Yorkshire Dales, the Lake District and Wiltshire are still the most popular areas.

The new generation of cottage holiday agencies, such as Rural Retreats, is very specific in its requirements. Cottages that are more than 100 years old must be photogenic, preferably with exposed beams, open fireplaces and secluded gardens, and be away from busy roads. The best returns are achieved on two-bedroom cottages. It also pays to be within walking distance of the village pub.

Barn conversions are to be avoided as they are not, generally, considered photogenic. A second bathroom, ideally *en suite* to the master bedroom, is desirable; good-sized bedrooms with firm beds are essential, and stairs should not be too steep for toddlers and the infirm. An enclosed garden is recommended (for young children and dogs); old pine kitchens must be fully equipped, including dishwashers and microwave ovens — and all the china (preferably plain white) has to match.

Nick House, chief executive of Rural Retreats, says: "For every five cottages I'll take only one. Some people get offended when I say I don't like their colour scheme, but I know what our clients want. Cheap, modern furniture will just not do. We are at the top end of the market and our business relies on referrals."

He describes his choice of interior decoration as "pastel with a splash" — neutral walls, carpets and suites, with a splash of stronger colour in the curtains. The four-page inventory sent to clients includes items such as baby highchairs, travel cots, hairdryers, video recorders, pay phones, champagne flutes and food processors. Three complete sets of linen, including towels (rich cotton only) per cottage, plus two sets of baby linen and a baby duvet, are standard issue.

Mr House estimates the cost of furnishing a two-bedroomed cottage to meet his agency's requirements would be around £15.000. "I prefer to be there at the outset, to advise on furnishings and equipment before any money is spent," he says.

If you get your cottage on Rural Retreats's books, the agency will charge 27 per cent plus VAT of gross rental income to let it (including brochure advertising, bookings and administration). The full management service, including housekeeping, costs 42 per cent of income. The property must be available for a minimum of 40 weeks, of which Rural Retreats estimates to sell at least 20 weeks.

Obtaining affordable buildings and contents insurance is a problem for many second-homeowners. Somerville Insurance Services offers tailor-made policies for Rural Retreat's clients' properties and their contents, including accidental damage and theft. A property valued at £100.000, with contents worth about £20.000, would cost £350 a year to insure.

You can also insure against business risks, including loss of income due to damage or failure of household services, such as water, electricity or heating systems, as well as public liability in respect of clients and other third parties, and employers' liability. Premiums work out at £50 a year.

Tax is payable on income from letting. Provided the Inland Revenue accepts your holiday cottage is a business, there are tax advantages, including tax relief on mortgage interest, running costs and capital expenses. The property must be available as a let for at least 140 days a year and let for at least 70. It must not be occupied by the same tenant for more than 30 consecutive days.

David Hill, a chartered accountant who specialises in tax advice for holiday cottage owners, says: "All the costs involved in buying the property and renting it out, including furnishings and car-running costs, can be offset against tax."

It is wise to take independent financial advice before contemplating any second home purchase, particularly if you intend taking out a loan. It is easier to get a loan for a second property from a bank rather than a building society. However, the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society offers mortgages on second homes (up to 70 per cent of its value), secured on the property, not on the purchaser's principal residence, at 1 per cent over base rate.

Rural Retreats is holding a series of holiday property investment seminars, with speakers on matters such as tax and insurance. One is being held next Saturday, March 18, at the Crown Hotel, in Blockley, Gloucestershire. The cost (£215 per couple) includes two nights at a Rural Retreat cottage, lectures and lunch at the Crown.

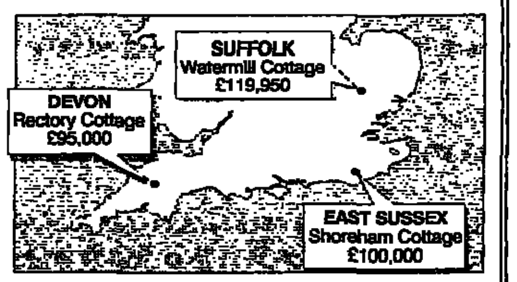
CHERYL TAYLOR

- *Further information from Rural Retreats, Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9DZ (01386 701177).*
- *Somerville Insurance Services can be contacted at 206 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4NR (0171-283 2786).*
- *David Hill & Co. Strawberry How Business Centre, Lorton Road, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9QX (01900 826446).*

Suffolk: Watermill Cottage, Mill Road, Kedington, Suffolk. Grade II listed cottage with attractive gardens situated on the edge of a village. Three bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, kitchen and breakfast room/conservatory. About £119,950 (Bedfords, 01284 769999).

FOR SALE

Country cottages



Left, Devon: Rectory Cottage, Northlew, Okehampton. Grade II listed thatched cottage with three bedrooms, bathroom, sitting and dining room, kitchen and utility room. About £95,000 (GA Property Services, 01837 54251).

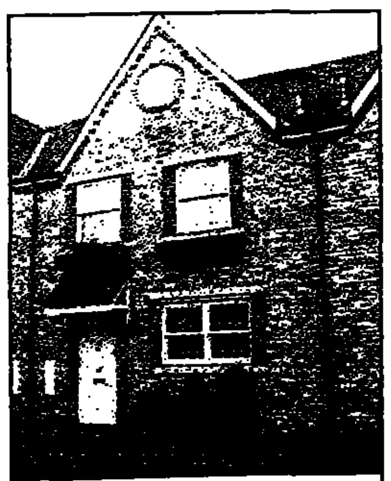
Below, East Sussex: Shoreham Cottage, Northiam. Set in half an acre. Three bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, dining room, kitchen. About £100,000 (GA Property Services, 01797 252366).

C. T.

ELIZABETH ST., SW1 £695,000
Near Eaton Square, an elegant period house with spacious accommodation. 3/4 beds, 2 baths, clkrm, 1st flr drawing rm, dining rm, kit. Freehold
BELGRAVIA: 0171-730 9854

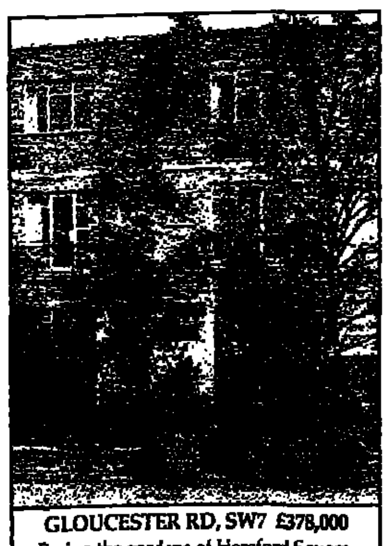
PERRYMEAD ST., SW6 £595,000
A beautifully modernised house in a popular street. 5 beds, 3 baths, 2 receps, kit, cellar, conservatory, 45ft west facing garden. Freehold
FULHAM: 0171-731 4223

SWISS COTTAGE, NW3 £260,000
A 2nd flr flat in a large house, converted to a high standard. 2 beds, 2 baths, 23ft recep/dining rm, kit, south facing terraces. Leasehold
ST JOHN'S WOOD: 0171-722 5556



WANDSWORTH COMMON £150,000
A bright, well presented mews house with a private garden, in a quiet enclave near Magdalen Road. 4 beds, 2 baths, recep, kit. Freehold
WANDSWORTH: 0181-871 3033

DE VERE GARDENS, W8 £475,000
A well modernised house close to Kensington High Street. 3/4 beds, dressing rm, 3 baths, 2/3 receps, kit/b'fast rm, sunny terrace. Freehold
KENSINGTON: 0171-727 0705



GLOUCESTER RD, SW7 £378,000
Facing the gardens of Hereford Square, a modernised house with an attractive front garden. 3 beds, bath, 2 receps, kit, store rms, garage, pking. Freehold
CHELSEA: 0171-352 1484

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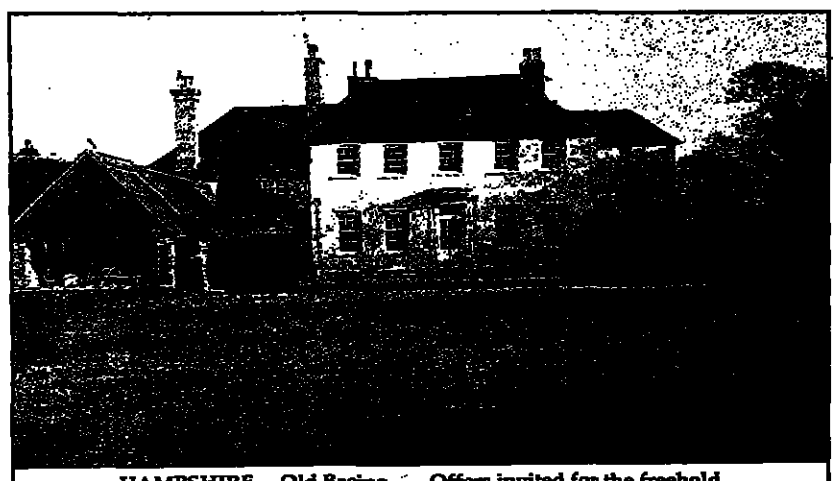
LONDON AND COUNTRY ESTATE AGENTS ESTABLISHED 1872



HAMPSHIRE – Old Basing Offers invited for the freehold
Ideally situated for fast access to London, a fine listed Georgian house, well positioned in the village overlooking playing fields and open countryside. 8 beds, 3 baths, shower rm, 4 receps, 2 kits, b'fast rm, cellar, outbuildings, garaging, swimming pool, walled gardens. About 1.13 acres.
WINCHESTER: 01962 863131

LONDON OFFICES		COUNTRY OFFICES	
BATTERSEA:	0171-228 0174	HEAD OFFICE:	0171-493 4106
BELGRAVIA:	0171-730 9854	CIRENCESTER:	01285 642244
CHELSEA:	0171-352 1484	EAST GRINSTEAD:	01342 326326
FULHAM:	0171-731 4223	FARNHAM:	01252 737115
KENSINGTON:	0171-727 0705	LYMINGTON:	01590 677233
MAYFAIR:	0171-408 0055	NEWBURY:	01635 523225
ST JOHN'S WOOD:	0171-722 5556	OXFORD:	01865 311522
WANDSWORTH:	0181-871 3033	WINCHESTER:	01962 863131
WIMBLEDON:	0181-944 7172	HONG KONG:	010 852 2 872 5146

26 CURZON STREET, LONDON W1Y 8LD
0171-493 4106 FAX: 0171-629 6071

RENTALS

FLOOD STREET, SW3 £1,500 p.w.
A spacious, modern house in excellent order. 4/5 double beds, 4 en suite baths, shower rm, 2/3 receps, kit, garden, garage, parking. Furnished/Unfurnished

ELYSTAN PLACE, SW3 £550 p.w.
A lovely, low-built house, well decorated with a double reception rm. 2 double beds, marble bathrm, en suite shower rm, clkrm, double recep, kit. Furnished

CENTRAL LONDON: 0171-491 4311

PRINCE ALBERT RD, NW8 £900 p.w.
A newly refurbished apartment with new bathrms & kitchen and views of Regents Park from the reception rm. 3 beds, 3 baths, recep, kit, utility rm. Furnished

CHESTER GATE, NW1 £1,000 p.w.
A ground floor maisonette in a Nash building opposite Regents Park with a private patio, parking & porter. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps, kit. Furnished

NORTH LONDON: 0171-722 3336

OLD PARK AVENUE, SW12 £650 p.w.
An elegant period house within easy access of Wandsworth Common and Clapham Tube. 5 double beds, 3 baths, 3 receps, kt. Unfurnished

ETHELBERT ROAD, SW20 £276 p.w.
A well presented house with principal bed & en suite bath, 2 further beds & family bath, 2 receps, L-shaped kit, secluded rear garden. Furnished

WIMBLEDON & SURREY: 0181-946 9447

HAMPSHIRE
New Forest
A refurbishend Edwardian house *fronting the open* forest. 5 beds, 3 baths, 4 receps, conservatory, kit/b'fast rm, utility, garaging, stable yard with 4 loose boxes, playrm/office, outbuildings, grounds, paddocks. Just under 6½ acres.
***LYMINGTON:* 01590 677233**

SURREY
Englefield Green
In a parkland setting with distant views, a distinctive house requiring modernisation. 4 beds, 2 baths, recep hall, 3 receps, staff flat, double garage. About 10 acres: JSA: Claud Waterer 01932 562351
Price Guide: £475,000
HEAD OFFICE: 0171-493 4106

SURREY
Bramley
A beautifully presented house with magnificent gardens, in a delightful setting. 5 beds, 2 baths, 3 receps, clkrm, kit/b'fast rm, double garage, stores, swimming pool, landscaped gardens & terraces. About ¾ of an acre.
Price Guide: £495,000
FARNHAM: 01252 737115

MIDDLESEX
Pinner
A house of character in a prominent location. 6 beds, 3 baths, shower rm, recep hall, 3 receps, playrm, clkrm, kit, b'fast rm, utility rm, double garage, garden. JSA: Peter Robson & Co. 01923 820622.
Price Guide: £365,000
HEAD OFFICE: 0171-493 4106

Grabbed by the Balkans

Peter Millar on a thriller set in the complexities of Europe's latest war

■ THE HEART OF DANGER
By Gerald Seymour
HarperCollins, £14.99

It ought to be surprising that there have not been more thrillers about the bloody conflict in the Balkans. I can only assume that the complexity of the internecine struggle, not to mention the unpronounceability of the average Serbo-Croat name to the ears of Anglo-Saxons — who still dominate the market — has deterred the bulk of the blood and guts bandits.

Which is perhaps just as well. For those of us who spent years watching Yugoslavia develop the symptoms of self-immolation, the slaughterhouse that has resulted was always predictable but never to be taken for granted.

The fact that Gerald Seymour was once a hack — part of the ITN ratpack — is overplayed by his publisher. It is also unfair to him. The amount of energy and diligence which Seymour puts into his research would shame most "in-depth" television reports. Contrary to the popular cliché, a thousand words are worth a lot more than one picture. And that makes *The Heart of Danger* a veritable album of the Balkan war and the West's equivocal response.

Seymour has pulled off a couple of clever tricks in order to make this often obscure conflict accessible to British readers. Firstly, his key protagonists are active on another level. The book's true heroine, Dorrie Braddock, is dead before it begins. As is the career of the man who pieces the story together for us in a CD-Rom archiving process for MI6's new megalithic headquarters at Vauxhall Cross, a name-coining that deserves to join John Le Carré's "The Circus" as a more accurate euphemism for spyland.

This is therefore a novel written from the "back-bearings" — spookspeak for what moviemakers call flashback — explored by a downbeat former spy in the best Harry Palmer tradition. Its theme is one of the great moral dilemmas of war: the engagement of human beings on their own scale against a backdrop of the international politics which fuel the bloodshed. Idealism versus pragmatism: blind justice versus a compromised vision; unpalatable truths set against acceptable self-deception.

Accusations of war crimes are the privilege of the victor. Hitler would have hanged Churchill. In the chaos that once posed as Yugoslavia there are no unbesmirched identities. Is it right therefore to jeopardise a chance of lasting peace for the sake of retribution? But, if we forsake the principle of justice, what are we fighting for anyway? Or would we in the West do best to accept a regional return to the law of the jungle and salve our consciences by attempting to contain it because we would rather not think about it?

If you do not want to think about this or any of these issues, do not read this book. But if you think modern popular fiction should address serious issues as well as entertain, then *The Heart of Danger* is unmissable.

History's first screen kiss: from *The May Irwin-John C. Rice Kiss* (1896), illustration from *Cinema is 100 Years Old* by Emmanuelle Toulet (Thames & Hudson, £6.95)

Mama, you've been on my mind

■ MOTHERS BY DAUGHTERS
Edited by Joanna Goldsworthy
Virago, £8.99

YOU can imagine the anguished phone calls to Joanna Goldsworthy in the making of this collection. "I can't do it". "I feel so guilty". "If you'll let me off, I'll be ever such a good girl". Such filial anguish was obviously the point of *Mothers by Daughters*, but it is no wonder some of the essays are nervous and lacklustre, written with one eye on the avenging goddess who will read it. Georgina Hammick expresses the problem clearly: "How do you avoid whitewash and compromise that must in themselves imply betrayal?"

The best essays are from women whose mothers were particularly strong-willed, who imbued them with nerve. Zoe Heller writes magnificently of her "importantly beautiful" mother. "More than any of her physical grandeur, however, it was my mother's hard, rather spiky intelligence that seemed to be the true source of her potency." Heller's mother was a kind of Diana (the goddess, not the princess); Nina Bawden's was a Juno. "Until she grew old and dependent, and softer in her approach to me, I was always cautious with her."

These mothers are variously "beautiful", "glamorous", "so pretty" — but are these flattering phrases just little presents of obeisance? Excuse the cod psychoanalysis, but therapy is a road well travelled in these essays; when writers say "it took years to make the connection" or "she never validated my needs", it unavoidably suggests a regular, expensive activity of 55 minutes a week.

The most surprising piece is Carole Stone's. She admits no friction at all. "Every memory I have of Mama is full of love. She taught me how to love — fully, but without dependence. And finally, she taught me how to let go."

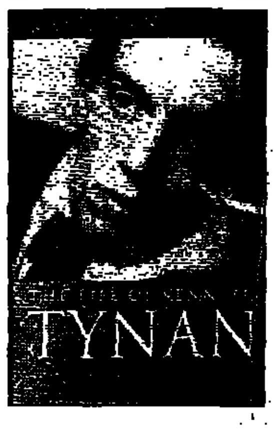
That cannot be right. What about rage and blame, resentment and guilt, the hurts that never heal? In Gabrielle Donnelly's vivid account of an Irish family in London, she strikes a perfect tone of retrospective anger at "Herself" (the mother) jealously reserving all the female territory. Donnelly separated herself from her mother's influence by living abroad; but daughters carry their mothers' voices in their heads, that is the point. Anne Leaton describes the bombshell of learning "my mother's life and happiness were not, and had never been, my responsibility". At this news she was grateful and astonished. "Nobody had ever said . . . that this was the burden of my heart and the probable ruin of my life."

LYNNE TRUSS

NEW IN PAPERBACK

■ WINTER POLLEN: Occasional Prose
By Ted Hughes
Faber, £8.99

The suicide of his wife Sylvia Plath and the interest shown in her by feminist critics, have made Hughes one of the most vilified writers of our time, forcing him into a life of seclusion. A Yorkshireman, Hughes writes brilliantly about the natural world and other poets. There are moving meditations here on publishing Plath after her death, and on Keith Douglas, who perished aged 24 in the Second World War. These essays are valuable in themselves, though many will read them for the light they cast on a complex personality.



■ THE LIFE OF KENNETH TYNAN
By Kathleen Tynan
Phoenix, £8.99

With his long sensual face, his flamboyant clothes, his champagne lifestyle and his iconoclastic views, Kenneth Tynan was the very embodiment of Sixties radical chic. He was also one of England's best theatre critics, passionate, witty and unprovincial, a brilliant gadfly whose weekly reviews were the ultimate word for a generation of theatregoers. This biography by his second wife (who died last year) does justice to both the serious and the frivolous side of Tynan, the boy from suburban Birmingham who found his spiritual home when he went up to Oxford and never allowed himself to look back. A heady life which had a painful ending.

■ PHILADELPHIA FIRE
By John Edgar Wideman
Picador, £5.99

This highly charged blend of polemic, prophecy, and literary fiction by one of America's leading black novelists is based on the true events of one barbaric night in Philadelphia. On May 13, 1985 a police helicopter dropped a bomb on a house, headquarters of a black organisation called MOVE, killing six adults and five children. The story is narrated by Cudjoe, a novelist. The problems of his mixed marriage, the horrifying picture of modern America and revelations of tragedy in Wideman's own past make this a tough and disturbing read.

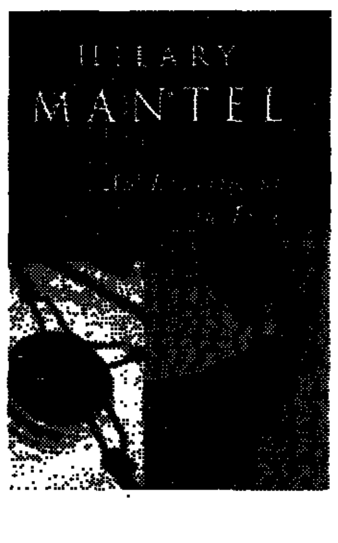
■ THE CASE OF MARY BELL
By Gitta Sereny
Pimlico, £10

In 1968 in Newcastle, 11-year-old Mary Bell was tried and found guilty of strangling two little boys. As debate rages on the subject of children who kill, Sereny's groundbreaking study of Mary Bell is reissued with a new preface and appendix about the death of James Bulger. Sereny recounts Bell's story in all its anguishing detail. Neither condemning nor excusing, she provides valuable insights into the mind of the seriously disturbed child.

● *Jason Cowley, Hazel Leslie, Giles Coren, Rachel Campbell-Johnston*

HILARY
MANTEL
'The novelist of her generation who will achieve a lasting greatness'
Literary Review

Her latest novels:
An Experiment in Love
&
A Change of Climate



'I grew up in a small town, the only child of elderly parents. Our town, a cotton town, had fallen into decay by the time I was born; cheap textiles from the Far East were beginning to flood the markets and those mills that remained struggled on with antiquated machinery, which it was not worth the cost of replacing; the workers too were ageing, and by the time of my middle childhood were like a parody of themselves, a southerner's idea of the north. Under the factory walls of plum-coloured brick, stained black from the smoke and the daily rain, plodded thick-set men in bib and brace, with shorn hair and flat caps: and angry-looking women in checked head-scarves, with elastic stockings and shoes like boats. Beyond the mill chimneys, you could see the line of hills.

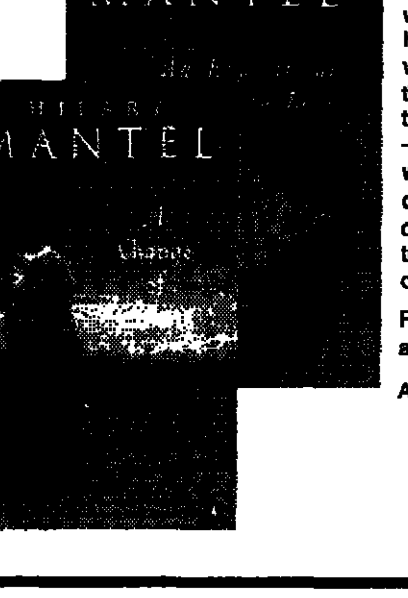
The streets of our town were lined with brick-built terraces, interrupted by corner shops which gave no credit: by public houses in which people would declare they never set foot: by sooty Nonconformist churches, whose attendance dwindled as the 1960s drew on. There was a time when each of these churches had outside it a wooden board, and pinned to the board a discreet notice in fading type, announcing the times of services and Sunday schools and the names of visiting preachers. But a day came when these notices were replaced by posters, splashed in screaming colours: CHRISTIANITY HASN'T FAILED, IT'S JUST NEVER BEEN TRIED. The town's cinema shut down, and was turned into a supermarket of eccentric design; the Mechanics' Institute closed its doors, had its windows smashed, decayed for eighteen months, and then reopened as a tyre salesroom.

My father was a clerk; I knew this from quite early in life, because of my mother's habit of saying, 'Your father's not just a clerk, you know.' Each evening he completed a crossword puzzle. Sometimes my mother read her library books or looked at magazines, which she also called 'books', but more often she knitted or sewed, her head bowed under the standard lamp. Her work was exquisite: her tapestry, her drawn-thread work. Our pillowcases were embroidered, white on white, with rambling roses and trailing stems, with posies in plaited baskets, with ribbons in garlands and graceful knots. My father had a different cable-knit cardigan for every day of the week, should he choose to wear it. All my petticoats, cut out and sewn by her, had rows of lace at the hem and – also by the hem on the lefthand side – some motif representing innocence: a buttercup, for example, or a kitten.

I can see that my mother was, in herself, not exquisite. She had a firm jaw, and a loud carrying voice. Her hair was greying and wild and held back with springing kirby grips. When she frowned, a cloud passed over the street. When she raised her eyebrows – as she often did, amazed each hour by what God expected her to endure – a small town's tram system sprang up on her forehead. She was quarrelsome, dogmatic and shrewd; her speech was alarmingly forthright, or else bewilderingly circumlocutory. Her eyes were large and alert, green like green glass, with no yellow or hazel in them; with none of the compromises people have when it comes to green eyes. When she laughed I seldom knew why, and when she cried I was no wiser. Her hands were large and knuckly and calloused, made to hold a rifle not a needle.

My father and myself were fair, lean, quiet people, our features minimal and smooth; our eyes changed colour in different lights. I was a little Englishwoman, my mother said: cool. This struck a chill in me, a deepening chill; I wanted to believe I belonged to another country. My mother and father had both left Ireland in their mothers' wombs, and their workaday north country accents were as flat as mine. My father looked entirely like an Englishman; he could have passed for an earl, or an earl's flunkey. His narrow body bent itself in strange places, as if hinged and jointed differently from other people's. His legs were long and seemed extendable, and his feet were narrow and restless; when he came into a room he seemed to hover and trail about it, like a harmless insect, daddy longlegs.

It was my parents' habit, at intervals, to shut themselves in their bedroom; then my mother would mention, loudly and contentiously, the names of strange towns. Colchester was mentioned, so at another time was Stroud, and so was a place my mother pronounced lengthily as Kingston – upon – Hull. Later I realized that these were places to which we might have gone to live, if my father had taken up an offer of promotion. But for one reason or another he never did. When I was in my teens they would take me into rooms separately, and hiss between their teeth – false, in both cases – about who had wanted to go and who hadn't, who had wrecked whose chances. It was beyond me to make any sense of this: to trap them in a room together and get them to have it out, spit out the truth of the situation. Perhaps I already suspected there was no truth to be had; their fictions were interwoven, depending one on the other.'



Read on in *An Experiment in Love*, a Viking hardback
available in bookshops now £15.00

Also, in Penguin paperback, *A Change of Climate*, £5.99.

VIKING

60 Penguin Years

Weird sisters, real lives

■ ARISTOCRATS
By Stella Tillyard
Vintage, £8.99

"EVERYONE *calls me a historian*," sighs Stella Tillyard. "I suppose I shouldn't resent it." It is a natural mistake: Tillyard is the author of *Aristocrats*, the history of the four noble Lennox sisters, granddaughters of Charles II, who lived between 1740 and 1832.

But *Aristocrats*, one of last year's major critical successes and now in paperback, is quite different from the dry schoolbooks that put most of us off the subject for life. "I wanted something that mixes genres: to push the boundaries of biography, fiction and history," says Tillyard, 38, who read English at Oxford.

Based on the sisters' thousands of letters, *Aristocrats* touches on everything from the political struggles of the day to the latest fashions in home decorating. "Biography should be about ordinary things: childbirth and period pains and love lives. If you are a good enough writer, you can make the most ordinary life extraordinary," says Tillyard.

Not that the Lennoxes were ordinary. Caroline eloped with a Whig politician, Henry Fox, and gave birth to Charles James Fox. Emily married the Irish Duke of Leinster, had 19 children and, shortly after his death, ran off with her children's penniless tutor. Louisa married the richest man in Ireland, while Sarah founded a military dynasty.

"The sisters became my friends; I was terribly sad when I left them," says Tillyard, who is expecting her second child. You think, of Emily, speaking across the centuries, on how to ensure an easy labour — eight miles a day in a postchaise "along a jumbling road . . . to jumble you" — her advocation of rest and good food, and you reflect how much and how little women's lives have changed.

Tillyard: mixing genres

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

Yuppie in the amoral maze

■ THE PRIMITIVE
By Stephen Amidon
Gollancz, £15.99

STEPHEN Amidon's amoral protagonist in *The Primitive* is David Webster, whose formally alert conscience has been numbed by life's bad turns. A Wall Street raid on his former company has forced him into an uncongenial job in real estate, just when his marriage to Mary Beth, a DJ at a fading public radio station, is particularly lustreless.

A car crash throws a mystery woman, Sara, into his faithless arms. She is being pursued by a couple of menacing creeps but David keeps her holed up in a derelict house while he tries to find out who she is and why she is such a hot property. There are echoes of Hammett as the story introduces a crooked, reclusive collector and a priceless work of art, "the primitive" of the title.

While the plot snaps along, the post-recession era in which the book is set is neatly established. The city has been downsized, its oldest section faked up for tourists. Minor players have distinctive voices: "Sometimes I think I have like zero couth at all," one of Sara's pursuers admits glumly.

Woven into the thriller format is a rueful account of worn-out yuppiedom. For all the murder and mayhem, *The Primitive* is, at heart, an icy parable of the way we live now.

PENNY PERRICK

The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	2	6
2	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF PLANTS **David Attenborough** *(BBC)*	£17.99	1	7
3	THE STATE WE'RE IN **Will Hutton** *(Cape)*	£16.99	3	4
4	FREE TO TRADE **Michael Ridpath** *(Heinemann)*	£10	4	5
5	GEOFF HAMILTON'S COTTAGE GARDENS **Geoff Hamilton** *(BBC)*	£18.99	5	6
6	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	6	17
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Cold start to March leaves the birds' larder almost bare

Feather Report

APRIL may be the cruellest month for poets, but March can often be the cruellest month for birds. It marks the moment when winter food supplies are almost exhausted, and spring food supplies have hardly begun. Harsh weather in March, such as we have been having, can turn the screw with fatal results.

Greenfinches are among the most vulnerable birds. Those that are managing all right are already making their wheezing spring call in the treetops, and will soon be singing. But for some of them survival is still touch-and-go.

In winter they feed in large, noisy flocks on grain and weed seeds from last summer's plants. Charlock seeds, the hooked seeds of burdock and even wild rosehips can all be found on the plant or on the ground until well into the new year. Grain is harder to find nowadays, because not much is left to be gleaned on the stubble fields after the combine harvesters have been over them.

After those food sources have come to an end, greenfinches can turn in early spring to the new seeds already ripening on dandelions, groundsel and chickweed.

But bad weather can hold those flowers back — and every year, in the gap between the seasons, some greenfinches die of hunger or, in their enfeebled state, are caught by cats or sparrowhawks.

Goldfinches are in the same position. Many of them leave Britain for France or Spain in the winter. But some stay here, feeding on the thistleheads and on teasel, and for them, too, last year's seeds may all have vanished before the dandelion clocks start blowing.

Great tits and blue tits have it a little easier. In the autumn, they often eat beech mast, and in the winter, with their small, thin beaks, they can dig out tiny insects in a way that is not natural to the stout-beaked finches.

THERE are plenty of insects around in different forms all through the winter. Many moths lay their eggs on branches or twigs in the autumn, like the lichen-green moth with the splendid name *merveille du jour*, which lays its eggs on oak trees.

The eggs of another woodland moth, the oak eggar, hatch in autumn, but in this species the caterpillars hibernate on the trees. Innumerable moth chrysalids also lie in cracks in the bark waiting for the spring.

Tits can find all these, and can even cope well in snowy weather. There may be snow on the top of branches, but they can hang beneath them and search the undersides. What really makes their life difficult is severe frost. When ice locks the branches in a coat of a glass, they are defeated.

Blackbirds and song thrushes have different feeding problems. They eat fruit and berries in the autumn and early winter. The song thrushes hop about delicately under the fruit trees, the blackbirds squabble over the berries in the hawthorn hedges.

After Christmas, they are obliged to turn to earthworms. They can spot the worms' burrows where a dead leaf sticks out, and hear them moving under the earth. Roadsides are good places for them, because the rumbling of lorries brings worms to the surface.

This is also the chief time of year for song thrushes to find snails and crack their shells open on a stone. But in March, if the ground is frozen solid or buried under snow, blackbirds and thrushes have few other resources.

So this is the most important time of the year for keeping the bird tables well-stocked. Of course, birds will come for easy food at any time of the year — they're only avian, after all. And it is a pleasure, too, at any time of the year to see them busy feeding outside the window.

But from spring to early winter they really do not need much human help. When there is frost and snow — and even after the snow and frost have gone — March is the month to remember them.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — watch out for the first returning sand martins, particularly around lakes and reservoirs. Twitchers — lesser scaup near Carnforth, Lancashire; snowy owl on Fetlar, Shetland; English golden eagle at Grizedale, Lancashire. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

● *Robin Jacques is away.*

MARY EVANS

Greenfinches are already making their wheezing spring call

A taste for fowl deeds

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

When you hear what I have to tell you, you may wish to have me declared insane. I have decided to embark on yet another new livestock enterprise. This may seem foolish when all the others appear to be under such haphazard control, but I remain convinced that good food comes only from good farming; and it is now time to take the experiment one step further.

Given the current atmosphere on the farm, the decision to expand our livestock numbers surprises me as much as it does you. We started lambing last week and I can think of no other activity in the farming year more designed to dissuade any sensible person from keeping anything that needs to breathe in order to stay alive.

I have survived enough lambing seasons now to expect an occasional disaster and come to terms with it; even so, the heart can still grieve a little. We lost a lamb the other night because the ewe decided to give birth exactly in the spot where a puddle of icy water had formed after a wintry downpour. She could have chosen anywhere in the six-acre field, but reckoned that this lethal location was the best.

These things no longer come as a surprise, and I try to keep a careful watch to ensure they do not happen often, yet some ewes have an impeccable knack for infanticide. It would require a personal, 24-hour-a-day shepherd to avoid all such accidents.

As I write, a limp lamb is by the kitchen stove having strayed from its mother in the night and fallen into another damn puddle. I have taken care to house the newly-lambed ewes in a field with tall hedges to provide good shelter from the bitter winds of the past few days, but this little lamb made straight for the fence, clambered through the hedge, rolled into the ditch and went to sleep in the icy water. It came dangerously close to a cold death.

Having given it a stomach-full of invigorating glucose, we are now trying to raise its temperature to a level which will support life. The mercury in the thermometer is rising only slowly but I think it will make it. Having robbed the Grim Reaper of one lamb, I wonder what he is planning next.

This is all good preparation for the keeping of chickens. I gather that their grasp on life is also a loose one. Chickens! Yes, *chickens*. I am not entirely a novice in the matter of domestic fowl, for we have had a few hens scampering in the garden to provide eggs for the house. Even that little enterprise has had a chequered history. In the early, romantic days, I bought two speckled hens (I also bought my wife a large white apron but she refused to wear it) and looked forward to fine breakfasts. I think I had two boiled eggs and possibly a very small omelette before the two hens retired from the arduous business of laying eggs and decided to spend the rest of their retirement feeding.

Not put off by this initial set-back, I bought even younger hens and fed them for an entire summer on the promise that, come the autumn, I would have eggs a-plenty. I did. But if I add up the cost of the feed, it made for some very expensive omelettes. Never mind: as I have said before, good food needs paying for, but perhaps eggs need not be this expensive.

I am not, however, going to produce eggs. I want a decent chicken for the table. I have eaten too many fowl that taste of nothing whatsoever, and want to see for myself if the magnificent flavours we have resurrected by natural feeding of our traditional cattle and pigs, can also be put back into the humble chicken. I have no idea how to start, but I know where I want to end up: I want a bird flowing with flavour, which does not deliver a slice of white mush onto my plate requiring a gallon of manufactured cook-in-sauce before it can be offered to the palate.

I might try raising old breeds of table bird, like the Light Sussex; or it might be interesting to see what happens if I take a modern breed of chick, destined for the intensive broiler units, and give it a life in the fresh air, feeding it grass and corn and all the other things it would never get a chance to peck at. Perhaps it will reward me with a flavour that those who remember *real* chicken believe has gone for good.

I have shamelessly put fat back onto our pork, to the delight of my select band of customers, and restored marbling into our beef; why should I not also turn back the clock on behalf of the humble, abused chicken?

As yet, I have no idea how I will rear them, house them, or confine them, but they tell me fortune favours the brave.

Anyway, the little lamb by the stove is now raising its head and giving a half-hearted bleat. "Give it a go," I am sure it is saying, "birds can't be any more trouble than I am."

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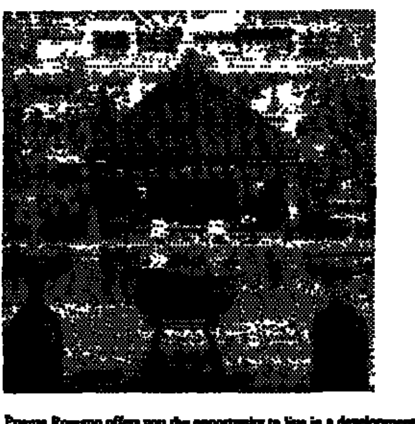

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TURKEY: Istanbul, where East meets West at the Bosphorus, is alive with pleasures old and new

Back to Byzantium and its bazaars

Shopping in Istanbul is fun. There is a well-established myth that we recoil from bargaining, but that is not my experience: put a group of British tourists in a Turkish bazaar and they will happily haggle as if to the manner born.

The Grand Bazaar *(Kapali Carsi)*, the labyrinthine covered market that is reputedly the biggest in the world, is stunning, its brightly lit alleyways and passages each specialising in a different trade: carpets or embroidered bags, hand-beaten copper or silver antiques. Although some of the assistants in its 4,000 shops are persistent, following you for yards entreating you to step in and look round or join them for a cup of tea, most greet your "Just looking" or "How much?" with a politeness long-forgotten in London's Oxford Street.

Then, behind the Yeni Mosque, there is the Egyptian Market *(Misir Carsisi*, also known as the Spice Bazaar), which is overwhelming in its variety of aromatic herbs and spices, perfumes, caviares and dozens of varieties of Turkish delight. It is a cook's paradise, with dried ochra, aubergines, peppers and sausages hanging like colourful stalactites from almost every doorway.

The Topkapi Palace stands on the European side of Istanbul, and is half the size of Monaco. It was built for the Ottoman sultans in the 15th century, when 5,000 people lived there, serviced by 800 cooks and a harem, which was also used as a prison for the sultan's brothers when they were suspected of plotting against him.

The palace is stuffed with fabulous objects, such as an ivory throne inlaid with emeralds, a gold-plated cradle, Ming dinner services and magnificent copper kitchen utensils, and trophies such as a hand and occipital bone supposedly of St John the Baptist. However, the maze of 400 empty rooms which make up the harem were a disappointment — the tourist authority needs to put on a more riveting display.

The Turks have a lot to learn about museum presentation: there were intriguing antiquities with Arabic inscriptions, but no translations or explanation for the uninitiated; ancient books lay open, but without any indication as to why they are precious.

One of the few displays to get close to the standard expected was at the Ibrahim Pasa Palace, where stuffed dummies dressed in peasant costume were placed in yurt tents to illustrate their everyday life, cooking or weaving with wool dyed using buckthorn berries, a Singer sewing machine in pride of place.

The Sultan Ahmet (Blue) Mosque is revered as the most impressive sight in Istanbul: it has six minarets, stained-glass windows, a floor covered in antique carpets — people bequeath them to the mosque — and walls lined with blue, hand-made Iznik tiles. There is room for 8,000 people to pray together, although togetherness means something different to Muslims, the women being allotted space in the gallery or an area to one side of the mosque. During the tourist season there are evening light and sound shows.

You can look at mosques, museums, palaces or places such as the Yerebatan Sarayi ("The Sunken Palace"), a vast Byzantine cistern with 336 massive Corinthian columns in an eerie underground setting, with carvings of Medusa, her snakey locks lit by dim red lamps. But a visit to Istanbul would not be complete without a Turkish bath.

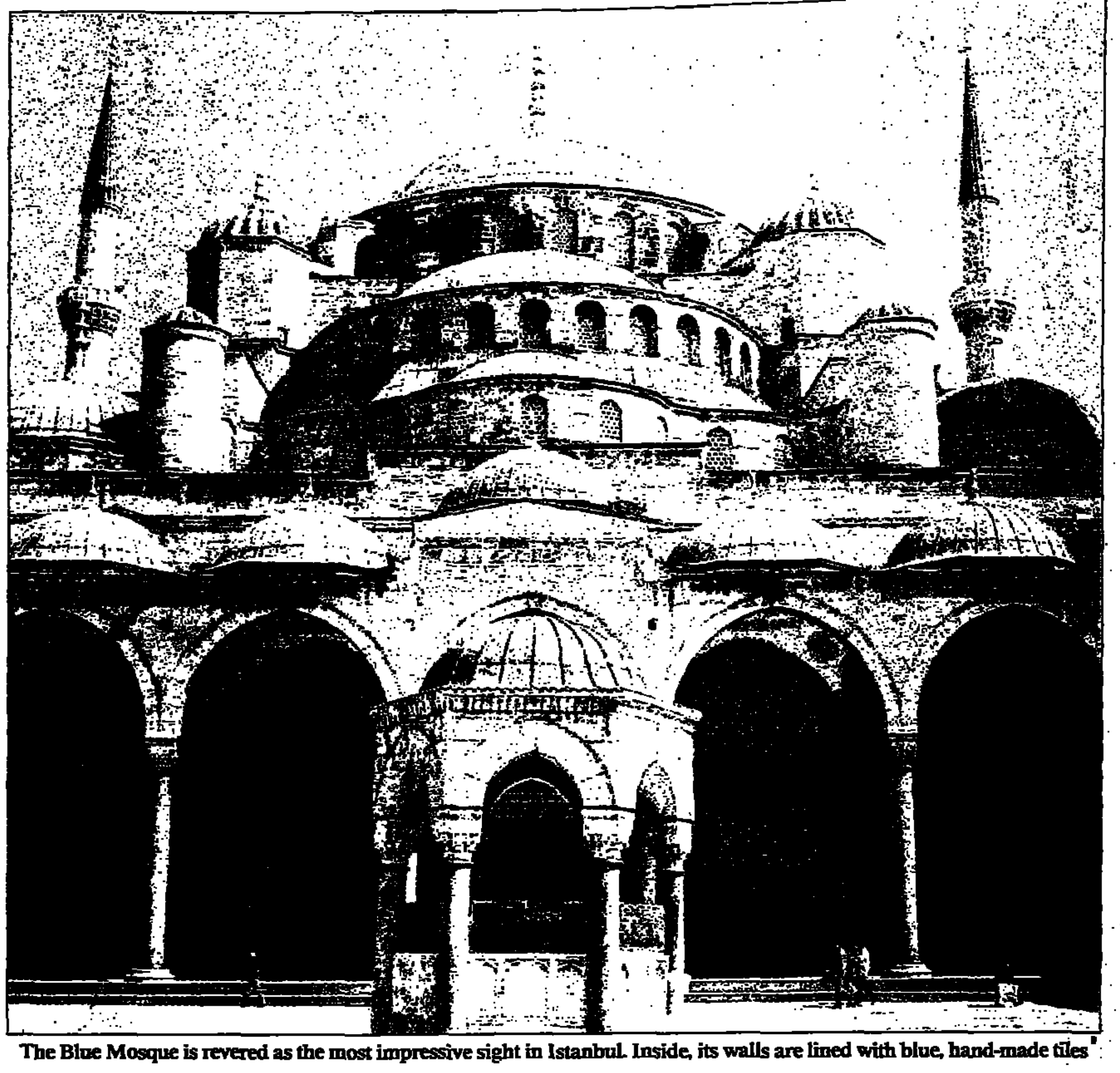
The choice of prices listed for a Turkish bath are like those at a car wash, from 1 to 5. I recommend No. 5. One of our party chose No. 1 and sat in her bathing costume spooning tepid water over herself. The rest of us bravely bared all and were soaped and pummelled on massive marble slabs by extremely fat masseuses.

Eating out is an adventure, too, when the mentality of the market place comes into its own again with restaurateurs vying with each other to entice you to sit at their tables.

In the Kumkapi district, famed for its seafood, we were propositioned every few yards and, when we finally made our choice, were serenaded by a strolling band of Gypsy musicians, sent roses by flirtatious customers on neighbouring tables and pressed to try all the puddings by the proprietor.

Istanbul is an incredibly noisy city. If the non-stop traffic does not keep you awake, the first call to prayer is likely to interrupt your slumbers well before dawn. But as a place full of exotic vistas, with Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman history rubbing shoulders with each other, and where the locals are tourist friendly, it has no equal.

HEATHER KIRBY


ROBERT HARDING

The Blue Mosque is revered as the most impressive sight in Istanbul. Inside, its walls are lined with blue, hand-made tiles

Getting there

☐ The author was a guest of the Turkish Tourist Office, 170 Piccadilly, London W1V 0JL (0171 734 8681); the visit to Istanbul was organised by Metak Holidays, 70 Welbeck Street, London W1M 7HA (0171 935 6961).

☐ Short breaks: three nights' bed and breakfast, sharing a twin-bedded room at the 5-star Hotel Marmara, including return flights from London with Turkish Airlines, costs about £329 per person; three nights' B&B at the 5-star Hilton, costs about £359; three nights at a 3-star hotel costs about £255.

Weekend adventure

THERE is a real sense of adventure about going to Istanbul. It is fascinatingly foreign even in the age of mass tourism. Staying at the Ciragan Palace Kempinski, once the summer residence of the last Ottoman sultan and now the city's most opulent hotel, I saw Istanbul the luxurious way (although the cost is not frighteningly expensive).

With its lavish Ottoman interior decor, the palace, which has its own private entrance, has been sumptuously converted into 12 private two-storey suites, and is one of the wonders of the Western hotel world. This is where Pavarotti and American and European presidents stay, for up to $3,000 (about £1,800) a night.

For the rest of us, the new hotel alongside the palace has 310 spacious rooms, an outdoor swimming pool on the shores of the Bosphorus, and a genuine Turkish bath. It is perfectly situated to explore the Bosphorus or the main sights of old Istanbul, 20 minutes away.

I have no particular wish to go back but I am glad that I have seen the Blue Mosque and the church of St Sofia, now a museum, with its wonderful mosaics — and sitting on a sunlit morning on a balcony overlooking the Bosphorus, with the towers of the Topkapi Palace on one horizon, the Bosphorus bridge on another, and, so close, Asia across the water, made my weekend in Istanbul unforgettable.

BRIAN MACARTHUR

● *The author was a guest of Savile Row Tours (0171 287 3001). A three-night stay at the Ciragan Palace, Istanbul, costs from £529 to £619, including return flights. A ten-day tour, combining three nights in Istanbul, three nights at the Villa Argentikon on the Greek island of Chios, and three nights at the Turkish town of Kusadasi, near Ephesus, costs from £1,399 to £1,499 per person.*

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 23

GAMBRINOUS

(b) Full of beer, an eponym from *Gambrinus* a legendary Flemish king who is credited with the invention of beer.

ORGULOUS

(c) Proud, haughty, showy, from the OF *orguillus*, *cf. orgueil*. Shakespeare *Troilus and Cressida*, "From Iles of Greece/ The Princes *Orgillous, their high blood* chaf'd,/ Have to the Port of Athens sent their shippes."

OTIOSE

(a) Serving no useful purpose, alternatively in a leisurely way, from the Latin *otium* leisure. The achievement of as much *otium* as possible was the ambition and duty of all upper-class Romans, hence *negotiation* the absence of leisure. The homophonic echoes of *adipose*, *odious* and *obese* make this a useful word for unsettling the ignorant.

ENEFICIAL

(a) Acting by poison or poisoning, from the Latin *venenum* poison + *facere* to do or make. Also transferred by Latin to mean acting by or used in witchcraft or sorcery, as for instance a witches' brew. Also relating to the doings of Venus, the goddess of love. Accordingly, the three meanings come together when your beloved cooks you a meal for the first time.

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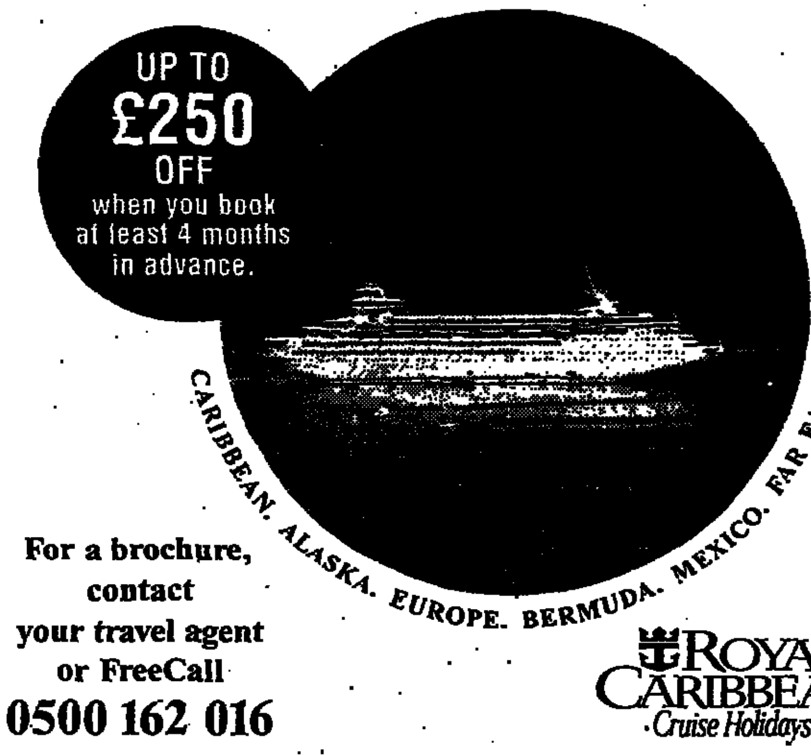

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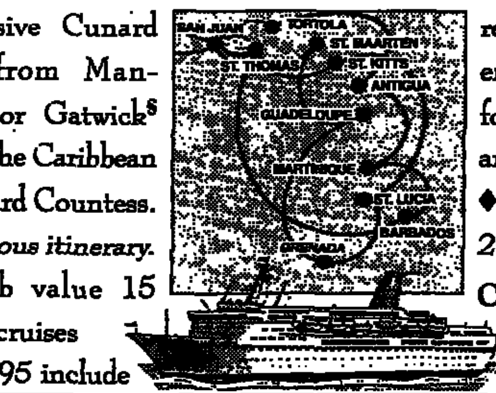

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CANADA: Explore the vast wilderness of the national parks by motorhome

On the road to the Rockies

Just north of Jasper we ran into our first wildlife jam. Cars and camper vans slewed off the road. People everywhere. Lorry drivers threading gingerly through the chaos. A signal for any knowing tourist to screech to a halt for a photo opportunity.

This is the nobler form of motorist voyeurism. No casualties in a non-contact collision between man and nature. There, unconcernedly browsing the verge, and occasionally raising its headgear in classic Landseer pose, stood a tremendous elk. The more seasoned among the roadside paparazzi even had time to compose the kids for a photo, with elk as living backdrop.

This is wildlife as moving sculpture. If we had stood there long enough, the elk, quite untroubled by the audience, would have grazed up to our toenails. But suppose it had been a bear? Then our motorhome, that ubiquitous holiday unit in which we were travelling with our daughter, 12, and son, ten, and which is known throughout North America as the RV (recreation vehicle), becomes the last word in transportable wildlife hide. We could have sat, unobtrusive and perfectly safe inside our metallic fortress. And later, it was a bear.

Once we narrowly avoided dissecting a cleverly camouflaged wriggle. Plenty of time to descend and admire, identify and photograph the bullsnake. That did it. An instant snake jam. Within minutes four more RVs had pulled up. Passengers piled out, once they were reassured it wasn't the prairie rattlesnake. Reference books were handed round; snake stories swapped. As we pulled away, another RV took our place.

And yet, isn't this still a rather vulgar way to see the world? Isn't it the height of touristic indolence, to convey the kitchen sink and every domestic comfort that can be squeezed in, through some of the most awesome scenery on the continent? We used to think so, too. But the case for self-sufficiency on wheels in one of the great accessible wildernesses, where there are few hotels, and there really oughtn't to be any more, is compelling.

The RV gave us 12 nights in the Rockies, at a different site each night, where we enjoyed many golden outdoor breakfasts and rosy campfire suppers. And it gave us the luxury of the early start. One morning we drove for an hour, the children still asleep, to be the only occupants of a car park under the Columbia Ice Field. We rustled up pancakes and coffee as tongues of sunlight licked under our RV.

PICTURES

The parks are strict where wildlife is concerned. Signs exhort motorists to drive slowly and not to feed the animals — "A fed bear is a dead bear"

We were in one of the world's great tourist circuits, yet there was space around us even at the honey-pots. Only once did we encounter a crowd, at the car park of Moraine Lake in Alberta. We returned from a three-hour walk to find two Americans close to blows for the right to double-park next to us.

The key to firm visitor control is the Canadian national park system. The first park, Banff (established 1885), fractionally predates the world's first petrol car trip and is only 18 years younger than Canada itself (founded 1867). This shows a remarkable sense of eco-foresight: the UK (established a lot earlier), which is also famed for fine views and countryside, created its first park in 1951. The Canadian park ranger, in his wilderness-blending brown, is almost as traditional a uniformed figure as the mountie.

Banff and the three parks, Jasper, Yoho and Kootenay, that straddle Alberta and British Columbia, are the scenic core of the Rockies. With a collective area of 8,600 sq m — slightly bigger than Wales — they make a bold enough landscape statement to hold the gaze of any passing spaceman. They were grouped together to make a Unesco world heritage site.

The park authorities have power to go with their pedigree. They man barriers on the Trans-Canada Highway on the park borders and extract dues from visitors. This is a bit like blocking the M6 somewhere around Kendal and charging visitors a fiver to enter the Lake District. Only the truck drivers, thundering on to the Pacific Rim, seem to escape the levy. Before you rage against lorries being there at all, the Canadian Pacific Railway doesn't go about taking freight off the roads by halves. We saw one train, about to attack the outrageous Rocky Mountain gradients, composed of seven locos hauling 106 wagons. And the parks contain one of the longest lorry-free roads on earth, the 145-mile Icefield Parkway.

For $10 (about £6.20) you get the freedom to drive around for four days in a stupendous tableau of lakes, wooded valleys and mountains. The essential detail of the mountains was contained under the legend "peaks over 3,000 metres" on the back of my bookmark from a bookshop in Banff and, as most of them come with a lake in the foreground, you get double the majesty. But to tell them apart you need a mind like a theodolite. The authorities have thought of this: little wooden roadside signs give the peak's name and point directly at its top.

We proceeded around the Canadian Rockies by the 1 per cent rule. At a loose estimate that's the percentage of the trails, viewpoints and museums we sampled. Often we didn't meet a soul. And this wasn't even real wilderness; somewhere in the blue beyond, there are areas so sacred you must leave no mark at all — there is even guidance on how to bury your sewage.

The parks are strict where wildlife is concerned. We were constantly exhorted to slow down for nature. Among the jaywalkers are bears — brown and grizzly — moose, mountain goat and porcupine. Overhead monitors flash, roadside signs swing, and mandatory speed boards decree — it's 70 km/hr (44 mph), for example, at an elk-crossing spot on one long, straight stretch of road. And everywhere we were told not to feed the animals ("a fed bear is a dead bear").

There's only one rule to driving about the parks in a RV without pre-booking — get to the new site by 4pm to be sure of a place. The national park sites are the simplest, and the best, with a luxurious space allocation compared with the average French camp site. You pull up on a freshly raked gravel apron, screened by fir or whispering aspen with a neat pile of wood for your campfire.

There's a short pause, then nature's quadrophonic sound effects resume: the scolding squeak of the least chipmunk, the raw kark of a raven deeper in the forest and the bold rasp of the gray jay, or whiskey jack, from the nearest tree.

But the family's vote for the best camp-site memory is unanimous. We were leaving Pochohontas in the Maligne Valley when we spotted it, moving openly and quite unperturbed under the aspens with that characteristic lolling amble. A black bear, guzzling pawfuls of berries. And we saw it all from our RV.

GARETH HUW DAVIES

Fact file

☐ *The author booked the family holiday through a travel agent.* They flew on scheduled Air Canada flights between London and Vancouver and picked up a recreational vehicle (RV) — pre-booked through Vacation Canada (0141-332 1511); — from Go Vacations at Richmond, close to Vancouver airport, after the mandatory one-night hotel stop. No pre-booking was required at camp sites.

☐ *Holiday costs:* flights, £520 per adult, £370 per child; motorhome (RV): £1,288 for 20 days (includes 1,790 free miles, paid for in Canada); camp sites around £10 a night.

TRAVEL TIPS

☐ BDH Golf (0181 644 1225) has short golfing breaks to the Irish Republic, including a week's self-catering at Dunmore East, Waterford. Prices from £207 per person for six people sharing, including return ferry crossings for two cars, six days' green fees, and reserved tee-off times.

☐ Time Off Ltd (0171 235 8070) has weekend breaks at Kilkea Castle, 75-minutes' drive from Dublin airport. From £275 per person for two nights including breakfast, hire car and return flights Heathrow/Dublin. Facilities include indoor pool, sauna, gym, tennis courts. Golf and fishing available (fees paid locally).

☐ Trailfinders (0171 938 3366) is offering Air India flights to Australia (London/Bombay/Perth/Singapore/Bangalore/London) for £575, plus £35 if you include a stop in Singapore. Offer open during March. Maximum stay 365 days.

☐ Driveline Europe (01707 660011) has two and three-night breaks to Lille during the Lille Opera Festival May 17-23. Prices from £99 per person, including ferry crossings for car, based on four sharing, two/three nights accommodation at the three-star Grand Hotel Bellevue and ticket(s) to opera/recitals. Alternatively, take the Eurostar from London to Lille for a supplement.

☐ Leger Travel (01709 839839) has nine-day coach holidays to the Verona Opera, Italy. Trips available on July 29 and August 5, 12, 19 and 26. £479 per person (based on two sharing) includes return coach travel from various pick-up points in England and Wales, half-board hotel accommodation in France, Austria and Lake Garda, excursions to Innsbruck, Vipiteno and Verona, and tickets to the Verona Opera.

☐ Jasmin Tours (01628 531121) has ten-day escorted trips to Lebanon and Syria in March, April, May, September and October. Tour visits Baalbek, Krak des Chevaliers, Damascus, Beirut, Byblos, Tripoli and Tyre. £1,172 per person (based on two sharing) including return flights from Heathrow, internal transport and half-board accommodation.

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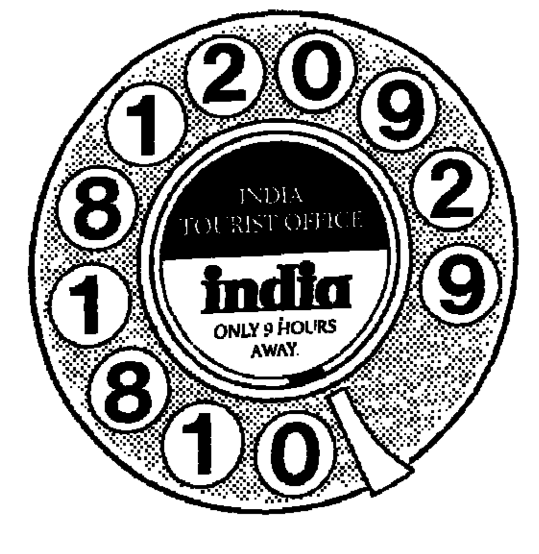

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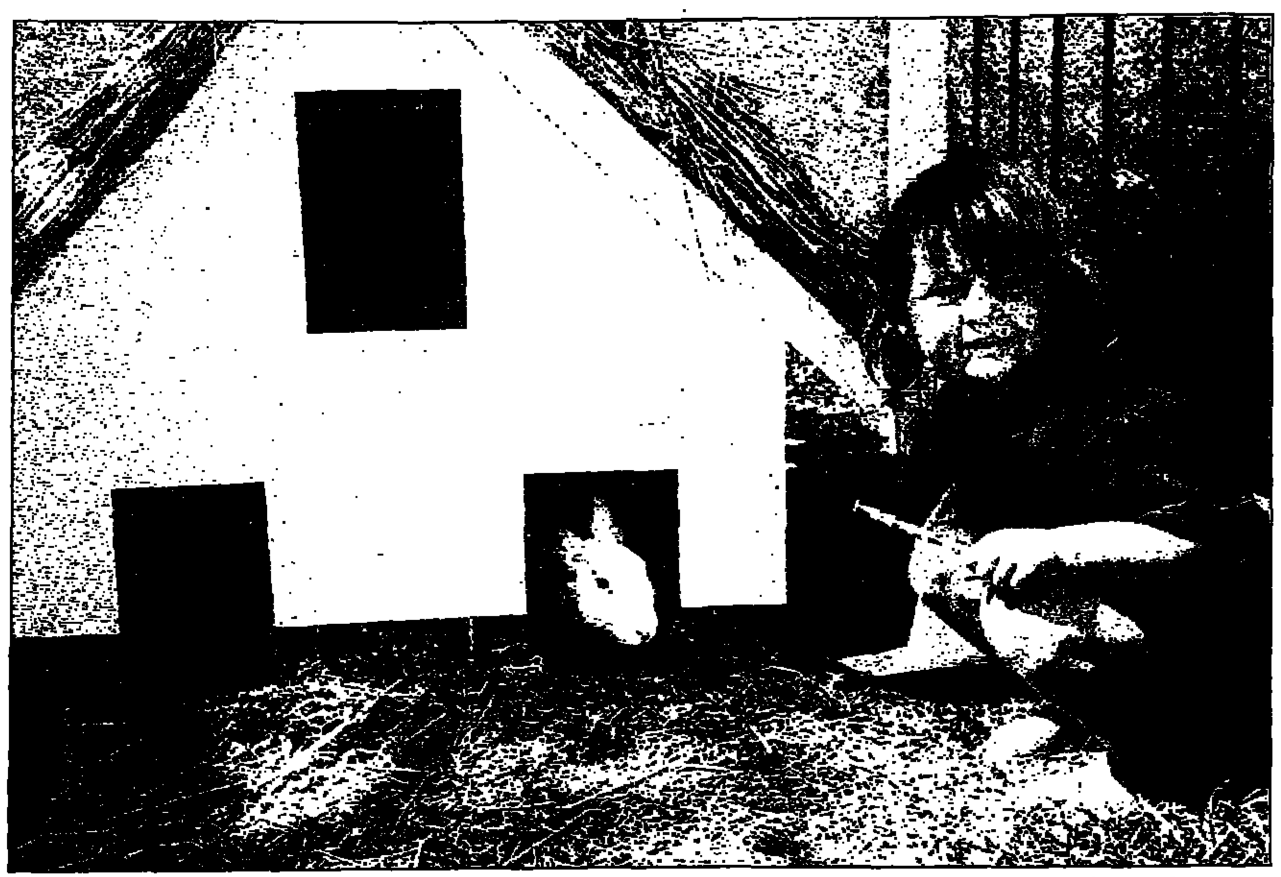
MADEIRA: **Jane Owen** and family visit a famous hotel where children were once neither seen nor heard

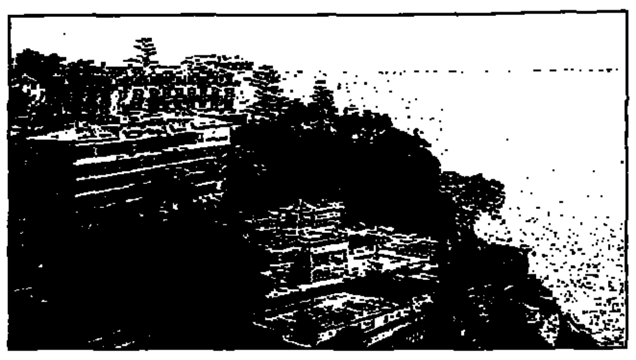
A fine send off for this little piggy


The rabbit who lives in a miniature version of a Madeiran thatched house was a big hit with the children

It was the pig that made the holiday, a pig newly killed by Augustino the *taxi driver's family* when we stopped off on a tour around the island.

Never mind the Cowardian elegance of Madeira's renowned hotel, Reid's; the stuffed bunnies and the portfolios of colouring books presented to our children when we arrived.

Never mind the breakfast room overlooking fine tropical gardens and the sparkling Atlantic beyond, and the breakfast feast of gaily coloured fruits, platters of smoked salmon, egg and bacon . . .


Cowardian chic: Reid's has tea terraces overlooking the sea

The pig, a nine-month-old sow, being scraped before jointing, curing, stewing and slicing became the talking point. Our children, Rose, four, and Miranda, three, were each handed a semicircular blade attached to a wooden handle with which to scrape the pig. My husband, Johnnie, and I were offered tiny glasses *of terrible, terrible wine made* sweet by the friendship and kindness with which they were offered.

Pig became a talking point: did she have babies, if so who would look after them now? Why was blood coming out of *her nose? Why wasn't her tail* curly? Pig also became a talking point among some of the well-groomed, perfectly mannered offspring who were playmates for our children on the Reid's children's programme. Yes, Great Aunt Maud, I said CHILDREN. AT REID'S.

So now there are tea terraces and grand pianos and even grander dining rooms . . . and children — who are tucked away on a (safely fenced off) clifftop nursery area with paddling pool, miniature wicker furniture, any number of crayons and paints, a mass of British children's videos, and a rabbit who lives in a miniature version of a Madeiran thatched house.

> ❛ Pig became a talking point among the children ❜

Two nannies, Migel and Andrea, Madeiran and New Zealander respectively, swam with the children in the hotel's two pools, played with them, cooked with them, and helped them with drawings and paintings. There seemed no end to their patience and kindness. The programme runs from 10am to 5pm every day with an option that a child can be returned to a nanny ("properly attired" said the programme) for his or her evening meal in one of the restaurants.

The children had a ball, although their stories about the dead pig seemed to bother some of the respectable parents who, presumably, had visions of us as holidaying pig-killers with a penchant for Reids's easy-clean marble bathrooms.

Most parents threw themselves into health-giving mountain walks, swims, wine-tasting expeditions and exercise programmes: their talk was of tennis and press-ups. My preoccupation, and that of my husband, was sleep — easy during the day, less so in the evening.

Noise — hectic, colourful amplified entertainment that proved almost too much for us — came, at night, from the hotels below the Reid's stately cliff:

"I, I, I sing in a minor keeeeeey

Because my man he left meeeeeeee"

On and on it went, followed, in the same bozza beat, by *Tea for Two* and, *still* in that identical electronic beat, *Rock Around the Clock*. A staggering achievement. This cacophony howled on until about midnight for two nights running but, on the last night of our stay, at the moment we had despaired of ever getting some peace, the most fabulous firework display lit up the *midnight blue Atlantic, some*how shooting down the misery of the past hours.

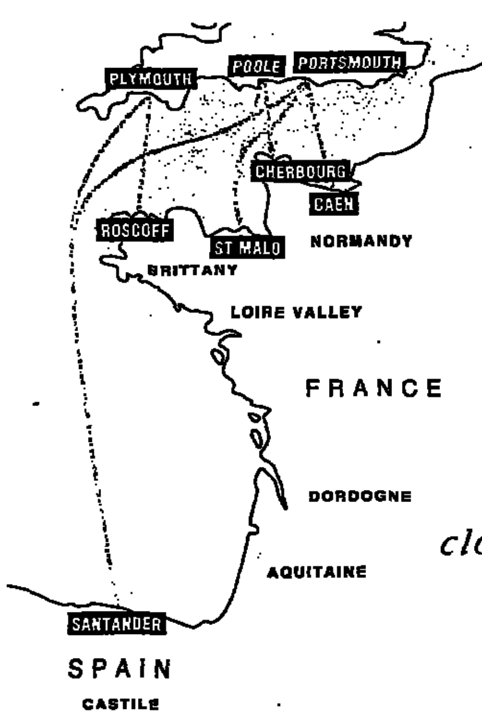
Staying at Reid's is like that — slightly disappointing every *now and then and, suddenly*, absolutely heavenly. Stand on the lawn beside the clifftop pool thinking how nice it would be to have one of those sunloungers pulled over, with a drinks table beside it, and the furniture rumbles over accompanied by a tanned man with white shirt, shorts and socks. Just like that.

Think how nice it would be to have that windsurfer hauled into the sea at the bottom of the Reid's cliff (sea level can be reached by lift for the hard-of-walking) and it happens.

But when I asked for a pair of scissors (to cut those infuriating plastic tags from some new clothes) there was a gruff: "You'll have to ring Housekeeping", followed by Housekeeping's "You'll have to ring so and so." And poor So and So arrived, with a vast pair of wobbly shears, telephoned to ask for them back and marched into the room with one brief knock to collect the item. Service is by turns brilliant and kind; gruff and offhand.

We certainly enjoyed ourselves — a week at Reid's is a superb way for working parents to start a two-week holiday with the children, giving us a rare chance to talk to each other and to relax. Every day we flopped around the pool and then scooped Rose and Miranda off to Funchal for lunch and supper. It usually cost around £15 for four delicious meals such as fresh sardines, octopus, chicken and vegetables, and drinks for the four of us. There was no way we could afford to eat at Reid's and, to be honest, it seemed a shame to stay cloistered in Euro-luxury, when we had never before visited Madeira.

☐ *The author was a guest of Classic Collection. Prices start from £474 for a four-night break and £657 for a week at Reid's Hotel, including flights on GB Airways, accommodation and buffet breakfast. For reservations or further information telephone 01903 823088.*



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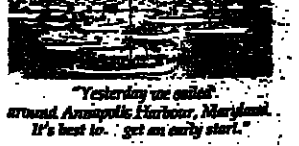
But I got side-tracked by the complimentary delights of the Air and Space Museum. So where did the other $4.98 go? It must have been the foot long hotdog. Expensive? O.K. I confess. I had two.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ISLE OF ARRAN: Warmed by the Gulf Stream, its charm has lured many tourists into making it their home

Mysteries in a wild and woolly land

The old gag about using a piece of string as a meteorological measure has been given a new twist on the Isle of Arran, off the west coast of Scotland. Locals use The String, a road which garottes the island latitudinally, as a kind of poor man's barometer, and the bastardised joke goes something like this: if the road is wet, it's raining: if the road is dry, it will be raining soon.

It does rain a lot on Arran. But far from being off-putting, this adds to the island's charm: it is an excuse to indulge, to rug up, scoff hearty meals, and drink syrupy sloe gin in front of an open fire.

The nearby Gulf Stream acts as Arran's personal hot-water bottle, injecting an incongruous warmth into this northern island where palm trees grow. These tropical transplants aside, the landscape is as wild and woolly as the 30,000 black-faced, long-haired sheep which dot the fields like balls of matted cotton wool.

The island, in the Firth of Clyde, is about the size of the Isle of Wight but has only a fraction of the people and, with its rugged and varied landscape, is often referred to as a microcosm of mainland Scotland. An unruly road wends its way around the perimeter through stands of scrub oak, birch and hazel; spindly, yellow-flowered gorse shrubs which cling tenaciously to the shorefront; and eerie circles of druidic standing stones. The Goat Fell, a 2,866ft snow-capped mountain veiled by low-hanging cloud, stands sentinel on the island's east side, rather like a geographical Big Brother.

The String road was wet as we careered along it, the bus-driver's accent thick as porridge as he told of the tourists who never returned home. Like many Arranians, he accepts as inevitable the influx of mainlanders seeking a permanent escape from the madding crowds: there are so many such "refugees" in Whiting Bay that it is referred to as Little Yorkshire.

Our party was cold, hungry and, of course, damp by journey's end: the 20-minute bus ride from the Caledonian MacBrane car-ferry terminal at Brodick to our destination on the opposite side of the island was about 20 minutes too long.

The House of Machrie, about halfway up the island's west coast, is the perfect antidote to Arran's tomboyish weather: an imposing, blank-faced brick façade melts into a cosy haven once inside, and a roaring fire and slugs of sloe gin soon warm the blood.

Stephen and Lavinia Gibbs, owners of the 25,000-acre Dougarie Estate on which their home, Dougarie Lodge, and the House of Machrie stand, have recently joined the Rural Retreats group, which markets holidays at about 100 country houses throughout Britain.

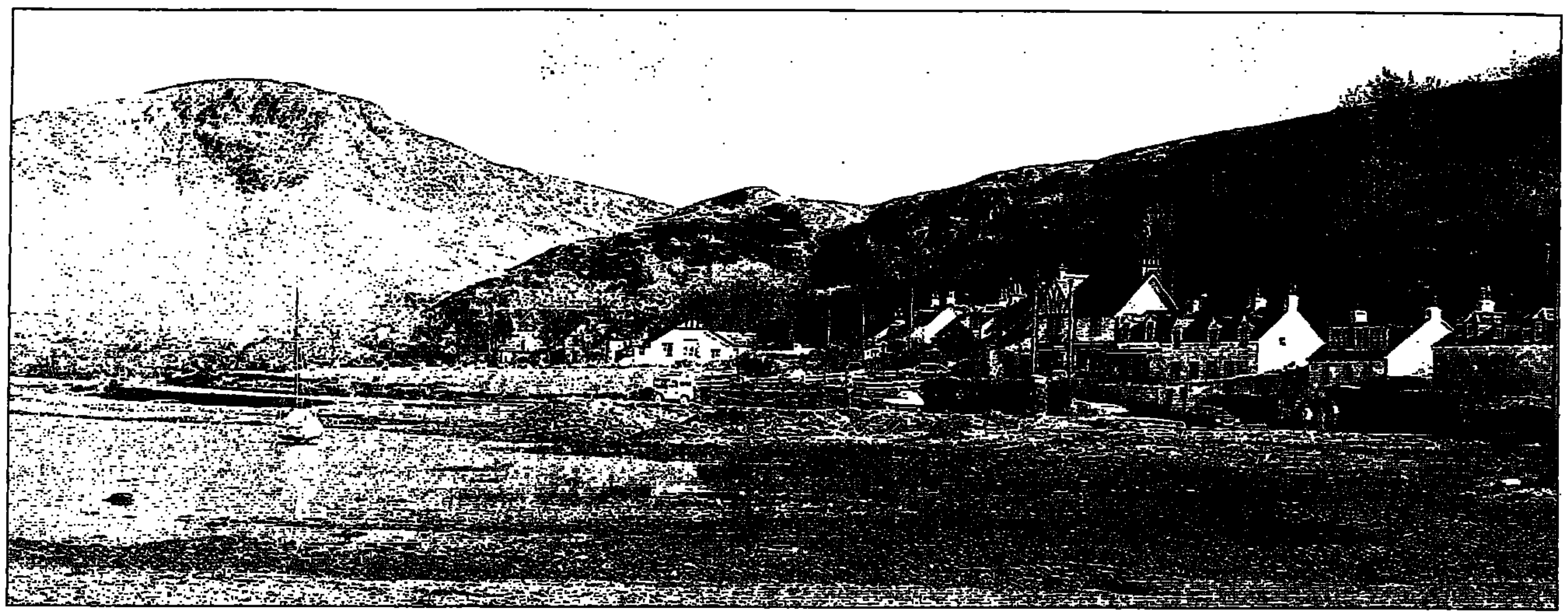
The House of Machrie — its seven twin bedrooms and five bathrooms making it the ideal spot for family reunions or a *Peter's Friends*-style get-together — was converted by the Gibbs from a 19th-century farmhouse and dairy in 1988. I was shown to a bedroom which pre-renovation photos revealed to be the milking parlour.

Next morning, the February air still had a knife-edge chill but the sky was tinged with pink, as if strawberry milk was being condensed up there.

After a breakfast which P. G. Wodehouse's dilettante Bertie Wooster would rave about — guests can cheat a little on their "self-catering" holiday by hiring a cook — we left our base to explore.

There is plenty to do on Arran — a choice of seven golf courses, cycling, pony-trekking, canoeing, sailing, fishing, walking — or you can while away the hours conferring with the flowers, consulting with the rain.

Guests at The House of Machrie have been known to spend their entire stay ensconced in the glass-enclosed verandah, soaking up the warmth of the filtered sun, mocking the ubiquitous highland midges and watching the toings and froings of the fishing boats in adjacent Kilbrannan Sound. For the slightly more adventurous, an hour's walk along rambling country lanes will bring you to Machrie Moor, one of the most important archaeological Bronze Age sites in Scotland.



Many of Arran's villages, such as Lochranza, were once fishing centres and, though there is little commercial fishing now, their character owes much to the seamen who once lived there

The origins of the Bronze Age standing stones are unknown

The Moor is home to the *Standing Stones of Machrie*, their haunting beauty unsullied by the throngs of tourists who mill around their better-known cousins at Stonehenge. These rings of upright slabs, circa 1,000 BC, are scattered throughout Arran, with another ring at Auchagallon, a little to the north of Machrie, and still more between Brodick and Lamlash on the east coast. Mystery surrounds their origins but they are thought to have had significance as meeting places for religious ceremonies or, perhaps, as ancient calendars working by the position of the rising sun or moon.

Many of the island's tiny villages were originally fishing centres and, although there is little commercial fishing on Arran now, their character owes much to the seamen who once lived there.

First stop north of Machrie is Pirnmill, home to a thriving herring fishing industry until the end of the Second World War, and to a mill which once supplied bobbins to the thread industry centred on the mainland town of Paisley.

Then, on to Catacol, with its landmark Twelve Apostles — a serried row of one dozen identical terrace cottages.

The coastal road continues through nature unadorned, past swollen burns, seabirds and yet more sheep. As if there were not enough real sheep on the island, inanimate stone replicas gaze out to sea from the occasional pier.

Lochranza, immortalised by Sir Walter Scott in *The Lord of the Isles*, is next, its white-washed cottages hugging the shore on both sides of the loch. The 14th-century Lochranza Castle, and the title Earl of Arran, was recently sold by Lady Jean Fforde to a Suffolk businessman for £425,000.

Lochranza Castle's place in the architectural heritage of Arran is overshadowed by the battle-scarred Brodick Castle, a red sandstone landmark on the outskirts of Brodick, which is one of Arran's main towns.

The castle's chequered history includes stints as a Viking fortress and a stronghold for Edward I in his campaign against the Scots. It was later put to similar use by Oliver Cromwell before becoming the residence of the Duke of Hamilton in the 19th century. Death duties forced his family to hand it over to the Government, and it is now administered by the National Trust for Scotland, which opens it to the public during the summer months.

Our brief tour of the island was rounded off with a decadent lunch at Kilmichael Country House Hotel — Arran scallops and monkfish with saffron and fennel followed by sticky toffee pudding with hot pecan fudge — after which we gazed with empathy at the handful of somnolent seals flopping about idly on the rocks near a disused lock outside Brodick.

MEGAN TURNER

How to get to Arran

☐ The author was a guest of Rural Retreats, Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9DZ (01386 701177); the Scottish Tourist Board, 19 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5BL (0171-930 8661); and the Isle of Arran Tourist Board, Brodick KA27 8AU (01770 302140).

☐ Trains run from London, via Glasgow, to the Ardrossan ferry terminal (Apex return £47). One-hour ferry trip to Arran costs £6.80 return.

☐ The House of Machrie (01770 840229): seven nights from £850 off-season to £1,200 peak season. Minimum stay five nights. Kilmichael Country House Hotel, Glen Cloy (01770 302219).

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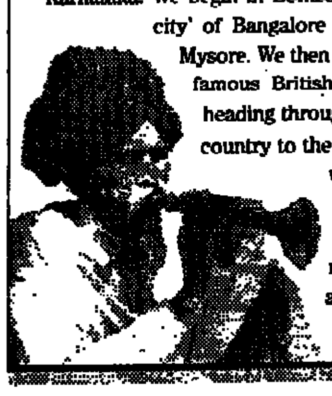

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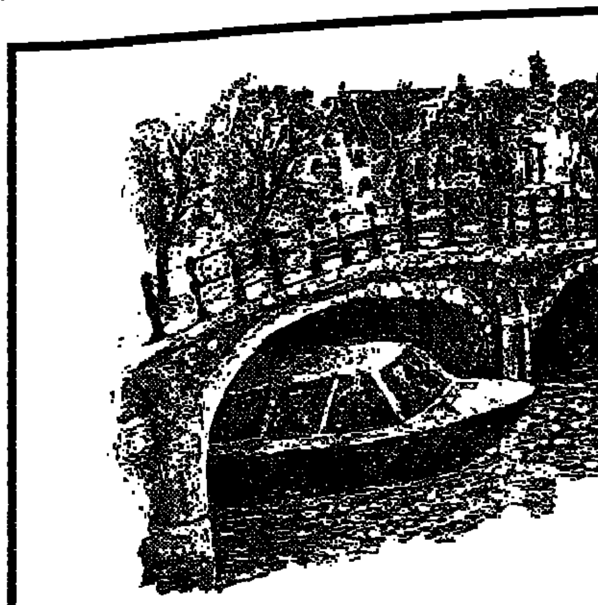

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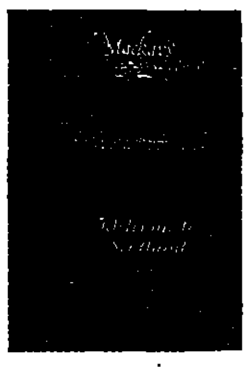

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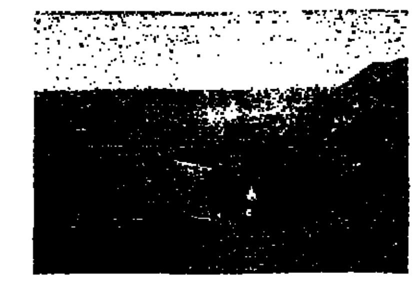

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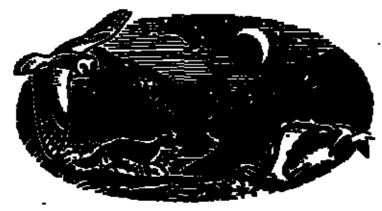

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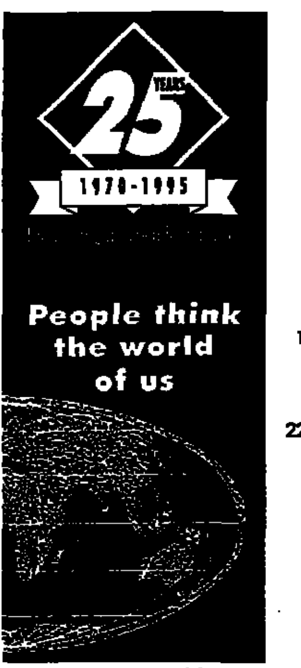

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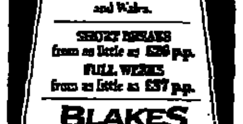

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CASCADE highly established social groups in Bristol - Cardiff - Bath - Gloucestershire - Taunton - Swansea. Unashamedly for the unattached aged 30'ish to 50'ish now welcome application for membership to enjoy *Dances. Dining. Sport. Walking.* Parties and every weekend excellent value accommodation at some of S. Wales & West Countries' finest hotels. (That's why members join throughout the U.K.) Contact Howard or Jan on on 01495 75 83 09 noon to 7pm *any day.* Comfortingly Cascade is not a Dating Agency/ Marriage Bureaux/ Introduction Agency/ or for that matter" ten morose souls in *the back of a village hall playing* scr-b-le.

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DANCE/PARTY. Are you single? Then join us at the Ballroom *Blitz in Bournemouth. (Last month* we had over 270 people coming from all corners of the UK) on Saturday March 25th. Dr & The Medics will be playing live. maybe *you* remember their UK No.1 hit single "Spirit in the Sky?" Our DJ will also be playing classic 70's through *to today's hits.* Don't worry about coming on your own - we'll introduce you around to loads of friendly people. Tickets are £10 which includes free food in advance reasonably priced local accomm/transport from London may also be available. Call Kevin or Sharon on *(01202 751818). Go on* treat yourself, you'll have a great time!

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STRONG outgoing good natured, down to earth, stunning, slim, green eyed blonde, 52, mad about keep fit, fashion & dogs. Homeowner. 2 grown up children. needs friendship with a man with *GSOH* who can really appreciate her. Please write with photo to Box No 4331

THE DINNER CLUB (Est'86) Singles dining in Ches. Lancs. M'side. Gtr. M'chester. Yorks. Wales. Shrews. Staffs. Worcs. Midlands. B'ham. Coventry. Northants. Leics. *Notts.* S.Lincs. Cotswolds. Warwicks. Glous. Derbys. Devon. Hants. N.Cambs. Norfolk. N.Suffolk. *N.Beds. N.Herts. Sussex.* Durham/Tyne & Wear & growing. Details M'ship or Bus. Opps. for Hosts nationwide Tel: (0244) 539454 or 548816

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LADIES

ABSOLUTELY Fabulous, successful, single mum, 34, slim, *auburn hair, blue eyes, freckles,* great cook, missing man for fun evenings in and out, tall without hang-ups, varied interests appreciated but rugby union an advantage. Harrogate. Photo plse in confidence Box No 4142

ACTRESS, late 40's. press desc. "still v. good-looking, glamorous, vivacious", fit, romantic, honest, caring, intelligent, adventurous & amusing. Seeks similar n/s, sincere attractive solvent man to share all life's pleasures and woes. *Photo* Plse Reply Box No 4104

ADVENTUROUS Canadian woman, Corporate executive, 39, loves all the good things life has to offer from travelling, skiing, scuba diving, sailing, golf, *to quiet evenings by the fire* with a good bottle of wine and great company. I am bubbly, spontaneous, independent, slim, cute and satisfied with life. I seek an equal partner for friendship, caring and sharing. He is 37½ to 48½, intelligent, funloving with a VGSOH and high energy level. *Please Reply to Box No* 4161 - Photo appreciated.

ADVENTUROUS bubbly blonde v.pretty lady living central *London needs to be uplifted by a* witty highly intelligent gentleman in his 40's. Please Reply with photo to Box No 4334

AMERICAN lady, *30, still getting* acquainted with London is looking to meet a man who is kindhearted and very intelligent. I am a Christian, educated and well travelled, striking, 5'7" and slim, athletic, caring, sometimes shy, talented, creative and the lucky Mommy of a precious little girl. Hoping I've said just enough.... My box number is 4191

AN attractive intelligent professional female 34, conventional but independent thinker, animal and countryside lover, seeks unattached *man* 35-50 *for* mutual TLC. Lives in London but yearns for open spaces. Wealth unimportant, integrity essential. Photo apprec Box No 4261

ANY *dashing officers out there?* With a trusty steed and nowhere to gallop? Tall, 30ish, funny. Or do I still have to keep eating frogs legs?! Box No 4324

A pretty physio.48 slim 5'6" warm tactile fun n/s seeks slim sensitive arts loving male 48-58 S.Herts/Lond.Photo Box 4241

ARE you serious but fun? Are you generally interested in *what's going on? Do you like* being out of doors? Tall slim attractive d. haired W. Berks female, 40s, would like to meet you. Reply to Box No 4311

ARE you that tall handsome amusing educated man who has far eluded this romantic attractive artistic young 55 widow? Please Reply to Box No 4178

A special lady - successful Jewish City lawyer warm witty attractive seeks special gentleman 40-58. Box No 4443

ATTENTION GENTLEMEN Phone Haydyn Wellesley *Singles for that special person.* 0171 499 7394 Weekdays: 10.30am-7.30pm. Weekends: 0181 686 2967

ATTRACTIVE, vivacious *brunette, 47, divorced too long,* looking for divorced/widowed man, 45-55, to settle down with to a comfortable home life. Family and pets welcome but not essential. My interests include most kinds of music, country walks/pubs, art, keeping reasonably fit Photo appreciated. Reply to Box 4506

ATTRACTIVE. sociable widow. Young 52, 5ft 6ins. dark-haired, N/S. GSOH. Elegant & cultured, but enjoys the funny side of life too. Likes travel, music, gentle sailing, country walks, cooking, theatre etc. Affectionate and loyal. Seeks similar fit, caring, unattached prof gentleman *Hants/ Surrey/ London Photo* plse Box 4471

ATTRACTIVE French lady 5'5" young-looking fortysomething - live N.London - needs professional *kind* French expat or Francophile Englishman, boat owner, with whom to listen to music, go to the Cinema, walk *on the heath, look at pictures,* sail even - adult children no object - letter & tel Box No 4259

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent, young *60's brunette, 5'4", size 14,* who enjoys holidays abroad, particularly walking holidays, but does not enjoy paying the *single supplement. WLTM* gentleman with similar problem. Many other interests including reading, listening to music, wining and dining. Box 4428

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

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ATTRACTIVE, intelligent, hard-working lady, 44, petite, slim, loyal, warm & caring n/s WLTM a tall, attractive, unpretentious, warm, loving male, wishing to find that special relationship. Honesty & integrity important. Photo appreciated. NW/anywhere Please reply to Box No 4454

ATTRACTIVE tall slim elegant business lady, 37, *tawny blonde* WLTM tall fit chap, single 37 - 47 with nice *face/bod.* affectionate, humorous. Interests - business, travel, arts inc. theatre, music, painting, good food /exploring reds. Photo ensures reply. Box No 4227

ATTRACTIVE Chinese graduate 34 seeks professional, n/s, solvent & child-loving man with a zest for life (30-40) for long-term relationship. All replies with photo or photocopy *of* photo will be answered. Please Reply to Box No 4107

ATTRACTIVE Black lady 25, *5ft 3"*, curvy sensual woman likes to be taken care of, seeks creative unconventional, humorous, solvent generous gentleman *40-48 who is looking* for some sparkle in his life.Reply to Box No 3991

ATTRACTIVE, bright, quickwitted, warm and sensitive single well spoken lady wgsoh in SW. London seeks similar male partner 40 - 50. Photo + Ph no appr Please Reply to Box No 4118

ATTRACTIVE, slim professional young 40 year old Australian *female* living in London seeks intelligent successful witty tall male for caring relationship. Please Reply with photo to Box No 4197

ATTRACTIVE professional brunette GSOH bubbly bright based in rural Cheshire WLTM tall generous professional gentleman between 40-55 for wining dining travel friendship. Photo please. Reply to Box No 4305

ATTRACTIVE well-travelled woman early 60's varied interests incl theatre music walking living East Sussex seeks friendship with responsive male. *Please Reply to Box No 4252*

ATTRACTIVE Indian of W.Indian origin prof. lady WLTM genuine Engl/Euro. gent aged 40-55 *for a fun/romance & forever.* London.Photo plse.Box 4310

ATTRACTIVE prof. divorced mid 40's *fun & affection starved* redundant *mum seeks caring* gen. gent for 'T' and other times. *Please Reply to Box No 4326*

ATTRACTIVE mid 40's Surrey lady WLTM *intelligent* grad. 38-55. 5'10+ for romance & dining. Photo please.Box 4315

BEAUTIFUL French miniature c.1948 timeless perfection a host of exquisite features, needs lasting protection and care in elegant untroubled surroundings. *A priceless objet d' art for* a discerning wealthy gentleman. Sorry no smokers or poseurs. Distance no object. Photo app. Box No 4149

BEHIND *every successful man is* a lovely woman. Classy London lady 30's seeks commitment minded gentleman of substance for business/marriage partnership. Reply to Box No 4453

BIRMINGHAM'S most eligible *young lady (38) beautiful,* tall, slim, solvent, stylish, effervescent wishes to marry and have children. Box No 4234

BLONDE *(38)*, blue-eyed slut with 2 DR 10's seeks the equivalent. Serious smoker, enjoys alcohol and opera. Photo and phone no to Box No 4359

CAMBRIDGE: Single, 38, lots of friends, plenty to do, but I need a partner, so where are you? *Tall,* under 45, kind, honest chap. Reply to Box No 4242

CARING, sensuous, luscious slav. lady 50, SE, seeks no-nonsense man of quality, for marriage. Tel etc. any age Box No 4468

CELTIC female, tall, elegant, over 40. Likes simple pleasures/ luxuries, seeks affinity with adoring, self-supporting, child-orientated male counterpart. *Photograph plse.Box No 4131*

CHARISMATIC Celt, slender & petite, S.E. based, seeks congenial consort, 46-58, satisfied with his direction in life, who enjoys fine wining and dining, travel and much more Photo appreciated. Box 4435

CHATELAINE sans chateau seeks nobleman of rank and fortune. She has classic beauty, grace, breeding and wit. He will be wildly handsome, exceptionally clever, under 60, with a rich varied and inevitably wicked past. Burke's entries only. Box No 4295

COTSWOLDS Countrywoman, 40's, attractive, slim, interested in music, painting, tennis, board/card games seek kind, sincere n/s man.Box No 3878

CUDDLE and laugh with me in Kent. Attractive, lively, petite professional lady early 40's, seeks unattached gentleman for ever.Reply to Box No 3886

CURVACEOUS, creative, cultured, caring cosmopolitan. Intelligent, attractive, lively, vivacious, wide interests, young 50's, loves sea/country seeks tallish, warm, n/s man who values quality loyalty & sincerity 48-58. London.Box 4186

CYNICAL, stubborn, quick witted Gemini (30) wltm rugged, mentally strong but caring male (28-40) for speed of light conversation and ricochet banter. No wimps, MCPs, or emotional *cripples need apply Box 4409*

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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NATIONWIDE

CURVACEOUS, charismatic, caring, tall, blond, stylish grey-eyed fun-loving Gemini 40's - seeks to meet positive, uncomplicated, strong successful south-west man with G.S.O.H. to make the sap rise this springReply Box No 4321

DATING Agencies are an anathema to me and I cannot believe I am writing this, but here goes. Widowed, 2 years ago and the wrong side of 50, I am finally bored with television, bridge and lunches. I am physically, mentally and financially sound. Friendship required, with a witty, healthy bon vivant. Are you out there, Errol Flynn? London/S.E. *Please Reply to Box No 4136*

DELICIOUSLY Alive. Slim vivacious redhead 40's divorcee seeks absolutely charming *unattached successful business*man 45-55. If you are out there, zoom up the A3 to Esher? Please Reply to Box No 4140

DOCTORS *Ex!* Very pretty slim petite early 40's GSOH WLTM lively loving medic/similar. Photo please. Box No 4320

DG kind witty tall available baggage free 40ish clever men with hair exist in Southern England? .Equivalent red haired beauty needs convincing. Please Reply to Box No 4325

DYED blonde (42) with long legs, flair, creativity and imagination seeks like-minded smoking, drinking, fast living, high earning achiever who fits the above T/shirt and would like to take it off! Photo and phone no to Box No 4358

EDINBURGH based graduate 49 tall slim and attractive with 2 teenage sons. Seeks kind humorous intelligent man to share outings conversation and laughter. Reply to Box No 4272

ELEGANT, young late forties professional woman would like to meet a friendly chap for companionship. If you like travel, music, cinema & chilling out you could be the person. *Please* Reply with photograph to Box No 4196

ESSENTIALLY feminine female, slim, 5'4" - *deliciously alive & a* Cosmopolitan at heart seeks male counterpart 58+ Southwest or thereabouts. *Photo app.* Box No 4115

ESTABLISHMENT lady considered attractive, elegant and very stylish, slim, blonde *with blue eyes: vivacious,* intelligent, humorous, gentle and very loving. A talented home-maker, cook/florist. Enjoys both London and country *life and has a penchant* for France. Seeks affluent cultured kind caring and sincere n/s Public School gentleman *50-65* with charm and humour. View to loving marriage? Preferably based central London /Glos. Oxon. *Please Reply to Box No 4396*

FEISTY lady seeks similar unattached gentleman (50's) to enjoy life and what it has to *offer. South-east based. Please* Reply to Box No 4297

FREDERICK - 40's intelligent and peaceful. stop visiting only my *dreams! please contact noble* German lady.Box No 4459

GLAMOROUS, tall, London-based blonde, 34,seeks wealthy, romantic man for marriage and children. I am solvent, loyal, socially accomplished, can cook, arrange flowers, charm dinner party guests and bear sons (one aged 5 by prev marriage) Happy in wellies/high heels. London or country. Presently am reluctant career girl, with many friends and busy social life but would prefer to concentrate on making husband happy and enjoying quieter *family life.* Interests tennis, horses skiing music. Photo please to Box no 4290

GLAMOROUS sophisticated intellectual woman seeks successful sophisticated sexy man 50ish discerning diner drinker smoker in other words a *'bon vivant'*? London area. Photo app. Box No 4417

GLOS lady elegant sensuous needs refined fun gentle(man) *tall n/s 45+ to spoil & be spoiled by - forever? Box 4462*

HAPPY sophisticated prof widow 45 WLTM n/s successful solvent man 50-70 to enjoy elegant lifestyle.London.Box 4180

HARD shelled, soft centre professional girl, petite, 37, good cook seeks successful, sporty male to lure her home from office Please Reply to Box No 4427

HELP *My bachelor friends* are deserting me for marriage. I would like some male company for visits to cinema/ theatre/ concerts and to join me on tennis court or mountain. You used to be fun, fit and easy-going. Photo apprec. Box 4282

I am a young 60 and have been invited to a very special Wedding in Yorkshire on Saturday 8th April. I would like a gentleman to join for me that top hat and tails occasion with a possible lasting friendship / relationship. He must be tall, n/s, aged 55-65 and unattached as I am. I am a cultured, refined, country-loving, sensational lady and look forward to someone very *special joining me. Please Reply* to Box No 4186

INTELLIGENT, attractive woman artist, n/s, independent enjoys walking, gardening, theatre etc. Seeks man 50's-60's for laughter, culture, friendship maybe more. Based London. 1st time adv.Reply Box No 4365

INDEPENDENT Chiswick lady WLT explore a new dimension that the right man might bring. So if you are slim, romantic, 48-55 enjoy conversation, wine, travel and other cultural delights and prefer silk to *denim, let's meet. Box No 4254*

INTERESTING, attractive woman with depth seeks creative, self-aware soulmate (39-50) to share love of Bach, *Schubert, Mahler, Hardy Franz* Marc et al. Greek islands and north Norfolk coast, East Anglia and beyond. Reply & photo to Box No 4511

IVY league educated, 41 year old female. Blonde, petite and seriously attractive. Very well travelled. (including five years in Washington D.C. at present taking a degree course at University of London. Interests lie in the arts, *golf and tennis.* Wishes to meet North American gentleman of similar age and background with a view to lasting relationship Plse reply with letter & recent photo to Box 4413

J'AI beaucoup d'espoir. Lively, prof. lady, elegant, blue-eyed Brit. S. London, 5'6", well preserved 54 years young, widowed many years, plenty chums, no lovers, tired of the singles lifestyle, seeks unique man: tall 55-65 professional, n/s, solvent, honourable, GSOH who, for starters, shares interests in town/country, France, travel, sedate skiing opera / classical music, loafing around at weekends, remembers birthdays and Valentine's Day. Go on, I dare you to reply - with photo! Reply to Box No 4293

KATHARINE ALLEN. "The highly respected marriage bureau." (The Independent). 18 Thayer St. London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

LADY, 56, central London, caring, homeloving, fortunately situated, would love to meet Gentleman, possibly ex-service, for friendship initially. Same public school/establishment background essential. Town or country Plse write Box No 4158

LADY, 63, slim, active n/s seeks gentleman *for companionship, romance* Suffolk. Box No 4283

LAWYER, Jewish, single, 42yrs, been workaholic for too long, now seeks serious relationship. Enjoys cinema, the arts & travel able to offer commitment, empathy, fun, & devotion. Lives *N.West Photo plse* Box No 4145

LONDON woman, early 50's, tall, good-looking, physically, mentally and emotionally outgoing. Oxford graduate, successful, creative professional career, four great adult children, wide circle of friends and good domestic life. Enjoys independent travel, theatre, cinema, reading, walking and evenings in an out. *Looking for* someone with similar *background, characteristics* and interests who can contribute to, as well, as receive from, a good relationship. No semi-detached man, workaholics or trainspotters. Please Reply to Box No 4337

LOOKING for friends in London? *If you are successful,* university educated, well-travelled, tall and sporty, 30's. I am 27, slim, pretty, caring, good-natured, enjoy good nights out, visiting art galleries, museums weekend country walks. Long letter with recent photo. Box No 4318

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MEN OF THE WORLD, now is *your time!* If you live in the Midlands we have over 290 sophisticated ladies 25-70. Elite Introductions 021 386 3444.

MY *friend WLTM a man that is* apathetic re-placing an ad. She is 40 single prof with nice life W.Berks. Its time she had someone to share it with. She has many qualities and it would be a lucky man who captures her. Only genuine replies or she will shoot me! Photo please. Reply to Box No 4329

NEW Forest area - professional. Christian lady, 46, caring, creative, seeks genuine caring male to share time with. Varied interests incl. music, theatre, walking Photo apprec Box 4418

NORTH of Watford! Do genuine, single, professional males 40-55 exist? Widowed Wirral mum 44 has her doubts. Must like golf, tennis, walking, theatre etc. and holding hands. I dream on!Reply to Box No 4178

NORTH London. Tall attractive woman, mid 40's, n/s seeks zestful male to brighten life. Please Reply to Box No 4336

OUR mother needs to meet 'nice' *man, to take her out and amuse* her. She's 46 tall, slim, looks OK, creative, bright, own business, GSOH when not hassling us! Sussex based, sails, ideal for you. Do write soon. Box 4451

OUTGOING, uncomplicated female, bored with the same old routine seeks tall, kind sincere man to mid 40's for good times Photo app E Midlands Box 4466

PARIS English lady, attractive, own arts related business Seeks sincere, intelligent, humorous, affectionate, romantic, solvent, Englishman 45-58 friendship or more, perhaps that special someone will answer?! England - France/Town-Country Box no 4240

POSITIVE, gregarious woman in her prime (40's) seeks sociable unattached man to share love of cities, people, public transport, and staying up late. Preferably in or near London. Informative letter enclosing photo ensures reply. Box No 4143

PRETTY *pilot slim tall glamorous* brunette independent fit n/s 30's. New Forest based. Seeks confident attractive successful partner 38-48. Please Reply to Box No 4350

S PROFESSIONAL women (40+) invite interesting male guests (n/s) to private sunday lunch in country house near Selborne Hants in March. Tell us why you'd like to be there. *Please Reply to Box No 4055*

RARELY available tall blonde unattached lady 42 no ties seeks distinguished gentleman for lasting relationship. Surrey /Sussex area.Box No 4275

RECENT widow of kind, cultured, humorous man needs male friendship. Loneliness hurts. Slender, Elegant, Good looking, 5ft 8 ins aged 58, N/S. London home. Mahler's 5th symphony and Italian Opera *but with a companion please.* Reply to Box No 4492

REFINED, cultured lawyer, 46, slim 5'3", warm, vivacious and very attractive, seeks well-balance professional man of similar status with charm and sensitivity, 40-55, to share life's many pleasures. Photo app. London/SE. Please Reply to Box No 4111

REFINED Redhead tall stylish ex-*fashion model.* Town countryside lover seeks gentleman confident cultured kind 50/65 wining and dining for mutual growth Plse reply to Box 4436

REFORMED wild child 36 green-eyed blonde looking for a real man 35-45 fit unconventional and young at heart. Photo essential. London. Box No 4169

RETIRED lady doctor 63 slim, kind, caring, practical, outgoing *seeks male companion for outings, travel, holidays and fun.* N.W. Midlands.Box No 4445

ROMANTIC female 27 seeks doctor (or Knight) for King-size romance.London.Box 4179

S. COUNTIES sporty country lady late 50's fit, secure enjoys country pursuits sailing horse & family life many interests seeks similar man to share & enjoy a social life. Late 50's early 60's exch photo's. Box No 4361

SCANDINAVIAN female early 40's n/s prof slim attractive tall friendly and honest WLTM a tall male 40-50ish into sport music travel theatre for friendship and who knows maybe more.South London.Please reply with photo.Box No 4300

2 solvent, elegant, educ. ladies. Janice: 53, slim, stylish brunette likes dancing, dining, country pubs travel theatre, and Kitty: 49, 5'6" vivacious attr, blonde, likes class music, art, horses, city - and country life. WLTM 2 distinguished, equally solvent and kind gentlemen, 45-60, 5'10"+, with similar interests London/Herts/Bucks Please reply to Box 4287

SPECIAL. Caring, tall, sophisticated lady with GSOH loves countryside. Lived abroad. V. fit. Interests incl skiing, sailing, walking, music. Seeks caring, true English gentleman 52+. Midlands or near. Photo app.Reply Box No 4176

SPECIAL lady, upper 50's. Slim, quiet, caring. Enjoys London and country life, music, animals, travel. Seeks companionship of warm - hearted compatible gentleman Please reply to Box 4432

SPORTY attractive *female seeks* outgoing sincere n/s man Midlands based.Reply Box 4350

SPRING: New beginnings Summer: Hot nights Autumn: Leafy walks Winter: Whisky by firelight Lady, 48, Hants/Dorset seeks Man for all Seasons Please Reply to Box No 4288

STARTING over. Divorced 43, blonde, slim, 5'7". Media professional, 2 children. Seeks tall, attractive, confident, successful man, Late 30's/40's. For meals out and movies and more if the chemistry is right. Herts, Beds/London. Photo app. *Please Reply to Box No 4247*

STRIKING slim professional female with style 31. Interests include hunting, skiing, seeks similar attractive gentleman with country interests humour and confidence. Please Reply with photo to Box No 4347

SUPER lady wishes to meet super gent 38-48 with a superb personality.Photo app. N. Yorks Reply with style.Box 4185

SURREY/SUSSEX: Slim, blond, blue-eyed, n/s, independent widow 45, GSOH, warm, sensitive nature. Well-educated, interested in Literature, Theatre, Walking/Countryside, Classical Music and Travel. Seeks kind gentleman 45-55, compatible interests, for companionship and possible long term relationship. Box No 4155

TALL, attractive, leggy, female, young 40's, with joie de vivre seeks fit intelligent beau for fun, romance and twosome activities London SE/Kent Photo apprec. *Please Reply to Box No 4437*

TALL, bright, blue eyed 27 year old with masses of long curly hair seeks tall, good looking, Oxford based professional to make her smile. Please write to Box No 4153 enclosing a photo.

1963 - Tall elegant Leo lady with golden mane, seeks male who appreciates the finer things in life. E Anglian region. Photo please reply to Box No 4429

TALL slim elegant blonde affluent under 40 I'm not! Warm, loving, intelligent, living life and loving it I am. Now tell me about yourself, I'm waiting to hear. Hants/South. Please Reply to Box No 4251

WARM caring Christian lady 51, WLTM enthusiastic committed Christian man. Enjoys walks, talks, countryside & travel. E.Anglia.Reply to Box No 4089

TYPICAL fun loving prof lady 5'8". 29yrs. Attractive equally happy in town & country. Tired of meeting knaves. Seeks attractive solvent knight to rescure her. Photo please. ALA. Please Reply to Box No 4108

VERY attractive vivacious Latin fun-loving female 40 petite intelligent passionate honest romantic successful confident seeks similar but rather special English gentleman 5'8"-6' tall VGSOH well-spoken & solvent for caring relationship. Photo appreciated & confidentiality assured. Reply Box No 4365

VIVACIOUS, slim, elegant and elusive lady, 48 years young. *Own business and home where* horses and other four legged people feature highly. In busy lifestyle involving lots of fun and people. Other passions, theatre, ballet, fast cars, log fires and champagne. Wish to be indulged and love to hear from professional gentleman with similar *interests.* London/ Thames Valley based Box4449

VIVACIOUS Brunette with lifestyle to match seeks male 40 something counterpart to share lifes good times. Letter with photo ensures reply. East Midlands area.Reply Box No 4157

W.MIDLANDS based? Enjoy theatre, cinema, eating out? Attractive, interesting lady seeks male companion to share a Rep subscription for the season and perhaps much more Please Reply to Box No 4112

WARM, witty, intelligent and attractive arts-loving female, 40s, seeks similar grown-up male to enjoy summer. London and life Photo app Box No 4467

WIDOW 63 GSOH educated sincere caring sensitive sociable unaffected active independent n/s no ties seeks unattached kindred spirit for friendship and who knows! Lives Spain, often in England. Be a devil - get in touch - photo please. Reply to Box No 4214

WIDOW 56 North-west has career & wide interests. Passionate about gardening countryside social justice opera &theatre. Seeks compatible unattached n/s man of intelligence & humour 50-66 for friendship. Please Reply to *Box No 4226*

WONDERFULLY winsome woman with winningly wicked ways seeks steadfast suitor 38-*48 who's wittily warm wise and* wealthy London area Box 4441

MINE: Female, N/S, 49, tall, slender, well travelled. Likes jazz/classical music, food/wine, Kavanagh QC/The Rector's Wife, country walks, animals, N. Bucks based. YOU: Feminine, petite, warm, witty, good talker/listener. Box 4423

GENTLEMEN

ADVENTUROUS? My beautiful new 20metre sailing ketch will begin dive and sail charter in the Caribbean this winter - she needs a hostess and I need a partner. This could be your passport to a wonderful new world. If you're 25-45, warm-hearted and outgoing, slim, fit, can cook confidently, speak French/German/Japanese, contact me. Box No 4268

ADVENTUROUS Expat Naval Officer. Living/working in the sun. UK Home. Tall, slim, good looking, 40's. Loves sport/mountains. Seeks slim, pretty, outdoor girl 25-40. N/S. Photo plse. Please Reply to Box No 4224

AMERICAN - Hungarian self employed professional, widowed, good looking, 6ft/186, greying black, often in London WLTM pretty, intelligent caring sporty partner 30-42. Photo please. Box No 4371

A sincere North Essex yachtsman, businessman early forties not ugly. Wants to get it right next time with cuddly uncomplicated 36ish lady. Please Reply to Box No 4426

ATTENTION LADIES Phone Haydyn Wellesley Singles for that special person. 0171 499 7394 Weekdays: 10.30am-7.30pm. Weekends: 0181 686 2967

ATTRACTIVE well balanced guy with successful professional career, 32, 5'9" n/s. Enjoys sailing, theatre, music and cooking for friends. S/West based but travels regularly to London. WLTM slim attractive female 27-38ish *intent* on enjoying life to the full. Your letter and photo ensures a prompt reply. Please reply to Box No 4468

ATTRACTIVE professional /business guy, 44 tall slim & amusing, seeks female 20s/30s *for close caring friendship of* shared interests. Much fun and uncontrolled romance! Dorset coast/London to Box No 4219

ATTRACTIVE 28yr old tall sporty male seeks well-ed. slim, bus/prof woman 32-42. Lond. Photo plse Box No 4341

A young 48yr old, sincere, caring, solvent, VGSOH, WLTM fun loving, slim, attractive 30-40yr old lady. Surrey/Berks/Hants border. Photo ensure reply.Box 4146

A 49 yr old 6ft & professional gentleman WLTM a warm, tactile attractive home loving loyal lady who wants to receive and give lots of TLC and mutual trust in a lasting relationship. Berkshire. Please reply with photo to Box No 4281

CHINESE professional (32) single wishes to meet lady for fun and friendship London/S.E. Please Reply to Box No 4285

CHARISMATIC attractive successful man 37, well travelled, fit, seeks equally stylish, slim and intelligent woman to make his heart beat faster. Photo app. Box No 4317

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BATH/BRISTOL area. I live in delightful country *surroundings* enjoying a successful lifestyle. I am 5'10" slim attractive kind & caring. My interests incl. adventure *travelling walking* music theatre antiques wining & dining. You are slender 38-50 n/s naturally beautiful sincere warm sensual & vibrant. *I seek* a soulmate for a happy & loving future. Please Reply with recent photo to Box 4276

BORED, but not boring, semi-retired company director, hedonist, bon viveur etc. Patron of the Arts, definitly Sui Generis, seeks attractive vivacious intelligent and good figured *female* companion for shared interests. Say 30 to 40 years *old. London* South East Photographs essential. Please Reply to Box No 4056

CARDIFF entrepreneur, 34, tall, dark and *handsome. A graduate* and MBA, with varied international business interests Very fit, enjoys training and working out. Likes good food and good company, current affairs and foreign travel. Would like to meet an attractive lady 20-30ish, sophisticated, intelligent and confident. Reply to Box No 4193

CARING, romantic, honest prof. Tall, fit, N/S, GSOH, 50's divorced. Enjoys music, theatre, travel, golf, good food/wine. Above all life! WLTM v slim, elegant, outgoing, *independent, 45 + lady* with GSOH who is seeking lots of TLC and a meaningful relationship. Kent/SE. Box 4439

CHEERY *mid-40's N.E. London* accountant seeks tolerant n/s younger lady hoping ultimately to settle and start a family Please Reply to Box No 4265

CRUSTY old ****, 39, not hideous, based Lon/Kent seeks gorgeous well-bred, well-ed, country-loving n/s f companion, 27-37, with rapier wit, champion's golf swing, palate for fine wine and ear for fine music who desires laughs, loyalty, *climbers and passion.* Send picture to Box No 4442

CULTURED prof man, interested in travel, classical music, the arts, wining and dining, bridge. Seeks lively, unattached *lady* 48+ for companionship. Marriage if compatible. London /S.E. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4279

DAMAGED goods. To rediscover social, travel and cultural *interests,* widower 53, teacher, seeks company of intelligent, gentle lady similarly placed Bucks/Oxford. Box No 4267

DEVOTED part-time dad, young 40's, music graduate, kind, funny, comfortable W.L.T.M. someone petite, pretty, artistic, solvent and happy, to share bathroom singing duties and teach me to cook. Surrey/ Hants/ Berks Box No 4284

DOCTOR 38 *WLTM* sincere educated lively lady GSOH for romance.Any nationality / area.Photo if poss.Box No 4258

DONCASTER *or 30 miles radius* - to complete and perfect the life of a 45 year old tall special financier. Wanted: slim very special lady around 38. Children no problem. Initially for romance - if suited?? Please Reply to Box No 3644

DO YOU KNOW *an English* woman, single 40's, who is slender, attractive, warmly affectionate, and who loves Handel and Bach? This American gentleman, a n/s, in his late 50's, WLTM a marriage partner with whom he can share beautiful music and a beautiful life built upon companionship, friendship and romantic love. Prefer to live in England. Letter and photo please to Box No 4249

DO you enjoy lazy Sunday afternoons, log fires, the countryside, walking, good food and wine? *Are you feminine,* slim(ish), 26-38? A tall, slim prof. male (36) living in W. Herts WLTM you. Box No 4114

EXTREMELY handsome, tall, kind, prof gent, 40's, seeks lovely, up-market lady E. Anglia Photo plse Box No 4174

6FT & fascinating + USP :Creatively thoughtful* "Man, 34, meets clever, confident & carefree woman thru ad - shock" *PS *Forgot v. handsome.* Reply Box No 4323

GENTLEMAN, 51, tall, divorced, educated public School and Oxbridge and of independent financial means, would like to meet his match! She will be about 40, thin, of similar background and live in *or* within reach of London. Tel. number please to Box No 4117

GENTLEMAN, home counties, early 40's, well educated, professional, WLTM loving, kind, caring NS lady 30-38 for friendship, sharing enjoyment of life including *theatre, cinema, flying* and motoring together with possible long-term relationship. Please Reply to Box No 4464

GENUINE, caring, solvent, good looking single male a successful farmer in Lincs, early forties. Seeks Country loving *female* 26-38 *for poss. relationship.* Must be attractive with nice legs, sincere, stylish & loving. Reply with photo plse.Box 4263

GOOD-LOOKING successful athletic affectionate humorous international businessman, 40, WLTM intelligent pretty *curvaceous 28-36yr old female* for travel theatre dining and much more. Phone and photo please to Box No 4238

GOOD-LOOKING, 52 but *younger*, 5'9" med. build, lives Berks/N. Hants. Fit. D/v, n/s. Fun, witty loving Enjoys classical music, wine, cinema, photography, wildlife, horses, conversation. WLTM *stylish,* intelligent, sincere pretty lady 38-50 who wants me too. Letter & *photo* ensures reply. My box number is 4362

HAMILTONS CLUB (West Yorkshire) Newly opened. Sauna, *Jacuzzi, Massage.* Mon-Fri 10-10pm. 0274 743432

HANTS Professional man, 50, attractive, single, seeks n/s lady who likes country walks, *travel* and romance Box No 4294

HELP! Save me from T.V. Saturday nights! Journalist, 43, sincere, affectionate, caring, seeks outgoing, natural, warm-hearted lady, n/s, 30s, with sense of humour, for fun - and perhaps more. *Please Reply to* Box No 4105

HERMIT, 49, seeks slim, n/s sensual savante 35+ *for quiet* London rethink. Box No 4233

HOME ALONE? North-west male, young 52, of good appearance, optimistic outlook on life, humorous but not too gregarious, V.solvent, seeks slim, quiet natured lady to create a home for 2. Photo appreciated. *Please Reply to* Box No 4195

HUNKY, romantic, sporty, Christian, 29 looking for Proverbs 31 girl 18-30. Inner as well as outer beauty a necessity. I'm waiting for you to start the rest of our lives. Photo app. All *replies answered.* Box No 4416

LANCASHIRE boy (35), slim 5'10", n/s, well eudicated and very caring, seeking special girl *(25-35) Box No 4408*

LET'S begin at Gatwick. Graduate 34 seeks lady travelling companion for a wander by car *through U.S.A. maybe through* life also. I am quiet, enjoy travel, cinema, books *& am a* passionate photographer. Loc. *unimportant.* Box No 4266

LOTS to offer that special lady that has not yet walked into my life. I am a successful Co Dir. 39 attractive *fit* and articulate with GSOH and a certain style. I can offer commitment and loyalty for a starry-eyed future. If you are attractive *fit* and intelligent please write with photo and tel no to Box No 4401. London /Glos based.

LOVER *of life,* humour *&* humanity, Browning & boating, Puccini *&* painting, rambles *&* Rioja. Seeks lady. 55+ for exhilarating experiences & hushed *harmony. (Sussex)* Please Reply to Box No 4364

MATURE (old, really) tall, professional London man seeks long-term relationship. *Alp* winter, Greece spring, Ascot summer, France whenever. N/s. Debbie most pursuits. Children /*animals in moderation.* Photo appreciated. Box No 4579

MAYDAY MAYDAY. Young late 40's male of reasonable looks *& intelligence (he thinks). 6ft, fit:* active with inquisitive mind & wide interests (not golf or football). Enjoys laughing, eating, drinking, smoking (intends to give it up), children, countryside, boats, books, art, music, history, opera, antiques. Requires cerebral & physical resuscitation by *young-minded* feminine soulmate. Photo appreciated with rescue package. Co-ordinates supplied. *Position Surrey.* Box 4312

MUCH travelled Levi wearing Wiltshire misfit 59 WLTM brown eyed n/s lady 40's model preferred. Usual varied interests. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4480

NICE-LOOKING professional man, 6ft 4ins, 48, n/s, single, warm, relaxed and good humoured with lots to offer, seeks bright, slim, shapely young woman, 35-43, *for* permanent relationship. N. London. Box No 4109

OXON 35 6' slim Phil Collins hair cut! S/E *Prof* in rental industry seeks down to earth slim attrac prof female 30/35 to share musical & comedy theatre food *hols away and anything else ?* photo app & sle.Box No 4438

PERCEPTIVE, travelled Scotsman *(52)* divorced, *London* Welfare *field,* needs attractive, caring lady (possibly single parent) American interests appreciated. *Plse reply to Box No 4447*

PRESENTABLE slim 5'11" sincere receding separated 45yr old business man residing in W. Yorkshire. *Enjoys* squash and tennis WLTM attractive slim romantic younger woman to share eternal happiness. Photo *& letter please to Box No 4177*

PROFESSIONAL man, slim, fit, 50, attractive, secure, n/s seeks similar caring, sincere lady 35-45 *for* close relationship, possibly marriage. Living Surrey but *flirting* with idea of S/SW rural retreat. Interests include tennis, keep fit, skiing, countryside, travel, theatre, music.Photo app. Box No 4307

PROFESSIONAL businessman Surrey based with own house and yacht. Tall, dark and divorced. Enjoys sport, sea and countryside also theatre and dining out. Seeks attractive professional lady 35-45 with similar interests. Photo *app.* Please Reply to Box No 4189

PROFESSIONAL early 30's from the shires seeks fun loving female. Photo app. Box 4304

PROFESSIONAL, well travelled, 40, Egyptian, UK resident, seeks attractive, slim, lady, 25-40, for romance and LTR. Please Reply to Box No 4213

RECENTLY retired divorcee WLTM an *Oriental* or *Asian* lady for romance and companionship based on mutual respect. London/S.E. Photo app.Reply to Box No 4356

RETIRED Oxbridge Engineer, 65, Country and Cultural pursuits, living Rutland, seeks intelligent witty loving lady Box No 4407

RIDING horses, food, wine, travel music and films are some of interests *of this professional* male. He is 34, 5'10" successful, good-looking n/s and is looking for an attractive and *intelligent* lady with similar interests for a long-term relationship. Photo app. Box 4292

SEMI-RETIRED Oxbridge, n/s, Ex-company *Director* WLTM widow 50-60yr for pleasant future years & sharing in enjoyment of horticulture, travel & sport. Hopefully we could meet initially for lunch to arrange Antilles charter cruise. Photo appreciated but not essential. Please Reply to Box No 4106

SINGLE Gentleman 32 N/S 5'9" based W Berks. Wide interests inc National Trust seeks attractive intelligent slim lady 25-35 Photo and letter guarantees reply. Box No 4171

SOMERSET professional gent (active, 36) seeks intelligent lady for fun together with view to lasting relationship - photo apprec Plse Reply to Box 4420

SPEECHWRITER, intelligent, gentle, funny, honest, 52, slim, 5'7", WLTM pretty, tactile, n/s woman 40+, into Arts, long walks, romance - London /Dorset. Photo ret. Box 4134

SUCCESSFUL but divorced male young 48, seeks intelligent, slim, attractive, younger woman for long-term relationship. Likes hill walking, modern jazz, bridge, good wine and that terrific black chocolate from Oxfam. Based S. *Powys.* Photo app. Reply to Box No 4328

SUSSEX man 36, successful, single, intelligent, N/S, varied sports & interests seeks similar attractive lady 20/30's so next FEB 14 brings more than just bills. Photo app. Box No 4430

TALL professional n/s male 34 enjoys walking talking sport and country pubs WLTM female attractive passionate sensual *intelligent 20-40 for* good times and laughter. Photo please.Midlands.Box No 4019

TALL slim man early middle age classics graduate with 2 successful art businesses in London seeks woman for companionship and sharing the *usual pleasures of life.* Please Reply to Box No 4309

TALL slim blonde attractive prof. caring male, mid 30's, WLTM attractive *lady (25-36) with* GSOH to share country walks, theatre, cinema, for lasting relationship. London/S.E. Photo *apprec.* Reply Box No 3667

URBANE writer, graduate, warm witty & occasionally wise, now approaching his half-century, *WLTM an attractive lady, n/s & under 45, of style and sincerity* for tantalising times in London /Surrey/Berks. A recent photograph with your letter ensures a reply to Box No 4036

VERY successful professional guy intelligent passionate. Elegant lifestyle good physique seeks attractive good-natured lady 30+ for wonderful times. London area. Photo preferred. Please Reply to Box No 4246

WELL travelled, good-looking male N.S. 36 seeks attractive fun-loving slim female 27-35 for friendship/romance Plse reply with photo Box No 4116

WELSH Gentleman active sportsman early 60's divorced, own house *and* dogs. Mid-Wales, seeks slim, tall 'Arglwyddes' late 50's who would be at home in The Country a photograph would be appreciated Box 4424

WIDOWER, highly eligible, presentable, young 55+, seeks rather shy Establishment girl 30's, a.s., *for loving, happy,* active family life in village. Be brave - nobody need know. Cautious telephoning first. Please Reply to Box No 4210

WOUNDED Berkshire male, 42, with irredeemably faithful, loving and optimistic tendencies, seeks attractive and affectionate lady for friendship and more. An intelligent professional like me, you will prefer pubs, *restaurants,* the theatre and the countryside, to parties and nightclubs. Please Reply to Box No 4332

WRITER, mature romantic, seeks lady to inspire him to greater achievements. London /Home Counties. Box No 4148

WRITER wid. fit NS 78 Prof *Surrey* WLTM NS Lady Writer *Please Reply to Box No 4166*

CHESHIRE professional gay man (29) warm, honest, cheerful, caring and hard working seeks similar. I am looking for someone happy, sensitive and honest, who wants to really enjoy life. Photo please, you will get mine too Plse reply to Box 4460

GAY man, affectionate, tall, hirsute, manly, 49, London, seeks quiet, sensitive man same age or younger (18+) genuinely interested in committed relationship. Non-smoker. Please Reply to Box No 4322

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هكذا من الأصل

GAMES

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

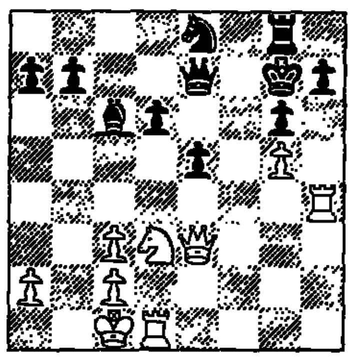
The ultimate objective in chess is to checkmate the enemy king. Usually the king hides away behind its own pawns, only to emerge in the endgame. Indeed, most games between masters and grandmasters end well before the checkmating stage, when one player recognises a hopeless inferiority in position or material and resigns.

If checkmate is played out, more often than not it tends to be a methodical hunting down of the king from a side which is seriously outgunned in material. The exceptions are snap checkmates achieved in the middlegame.

On relatively rare occasions, a king can be smoked out into the open, sometimes into the very centre of the board, and on even more unusual occasions into the *heartland* of the opposing camp *itself*. Such king hunts can be exhilarating and spectacular, and the possibility of conducting one at first-hand thrills the blood of every chessplayer.

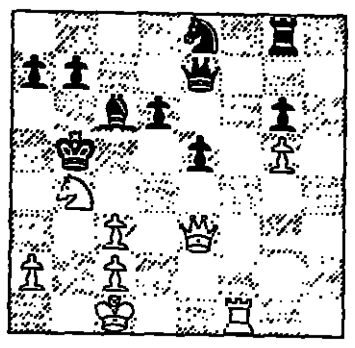
Early in the new year, I published the extraordinary king hunt launched in the game between Cifuentes and Zvagintsev from the tournament at Wijk aan Zee in Holland. I also invited readers to submit their own experiences of the king hunt in action.

**White: Wells; Black: Duncan
Hastings, 1994**



This example was submitted by David Burdekin of Newcastle upon Tyne. In this position, which arose from a dragon variation of the Sicilian Defence, the material equilibrium has been disturbed but the position is still in apparent balance, Black's bishop and two pawns representing reasonable compensation for White's rook. White's next move, though, revolutionised the situation and set the king hunt in motion.

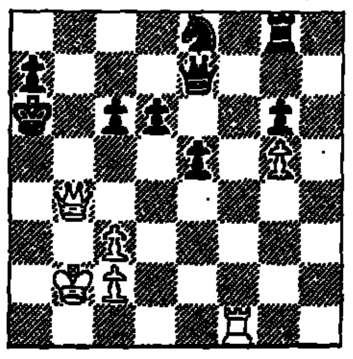
27 Rxh7+ Kxh7 28 Qh3+ Kg7
29 Qh6+ Kf7 30 Rf1+ Ke6
31 Qh3+ Kd5 32 Nb4+ Kc5
33 Qe3+ Kb5



Here is the decisive moment. White's sacrifice of a rook has driven Black's king into the open. Sadly, in the actual game, White now blundered with 34 Kb2, and lost after 34 . . . a6 35 a4+ Ka5 36 Ka3 Qc7 37 Rb1 Qb6 38 Qd2 Qc5 39 Ka2 Qc4+ 40 Ka3 Kb6 41 Qf2+ Qc5 42 Qf7 Rg7 White resigns.

But White had missed a beautiful culmination to his fine conception by means of

34 a4+ Kxa4 35 Nxc6 bxc6
36 Qe4+ Kb5 37 Qb4+ Ka6
38 Kb2



and mate is inevitable.
One of the ones that got away.

WINNING MOVE

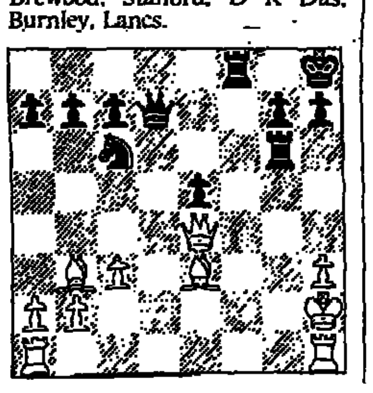
By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Steinsapir - Estrin, Moscow 1949. Although Black is a piece down, he has very powerful play for his heavy pieces on the open lines on the kingside. How did he now make the most of his chances?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Rxh6+

Last week's winners: R Gedling, Epsom, Surrey; C Buxton, Brewood, Stafford; D K Das, Burnley, Lancs.



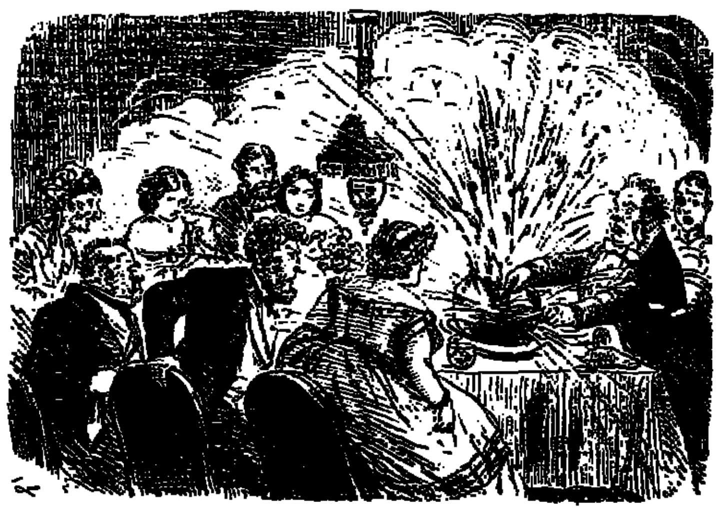
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 48, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, March 15.



GRAND BURNS' FESTIVAL.—BROWN ENTERTAINS HIS FRIEND WI' A HAGGIS!

"I did warn you about them rollers, Mr Portillo"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Terence Feely, of the Garrick Club, London

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GAMBRINOUS
a. Faithful
b. Beery
c. Flowering in autumn

ORGULOUS
a. Bad-tempered
b. Flatulent
c. Proud

OTIOSE
a. Useless
b. A silken fabric
c. A mountain-dweller

VENEFICIAL
a. Poisonous
b. Non-beneficial
c. Making veins

Answers on page 16

COMPUTER GAMES

DAME Edna once said she was in agony as the ball had jammed on her roll-on deodorant. A similar sort of nightmare faces any hardened games player when a mouse is worn out and about to give up the ghost. The dreaded "sticking ball" syndrome signals the beginning of the end. Should it happen midgame, frustration and high blood pressure inevitably follow.

And so to Cyberspace Thirteen. The subject: accessories. The prize: relief from mouse misery. Our three lucky winners will each receive CH Products' acclaimed "Trackball Pro", which is one of the smoothest and smartest trackballs on the market and costs £89.95. They will also pick up one of the Californian company's top-of-the-range joysticks, the "Flightstick Pro", which is worth £79.95.

For those in the dark, the trackball advances mouse technology by neatly inverting the species. The traditional mouse is replaced by a large rollerball cradled in a neat housing. The "Trackball Pro" is fast, fluid and much more precise than a domestic mouse, and fitting could not be simpler as it plugs into any standard mouse port.

The "Flightstick Pro" is a joystick worthy of any serious player with its trigger, numerous fire buttons and throttle control. Inferior sticks often need to be welded to a desk to prevent them from wobbling out of control at critical moments, but this beauty is self-standing and superbly balanced. The joystick is suitable for all IBM and compatible PCs and comes with software drivers for the "Microsoft Flight Simulator", as well as test and calibration programmes — all on a 3½-inch disc.

To enter the competition, you are asked to ponder the joys of accessories aimed at improving our gaming pleasure. Mice and joysticks may be the most obvious examples, but there are also virtual pilots, cockpits, steering columns, pedals, golf-clubs and guns to name but a few. Whatever you have to play with, over and above a monitor and keyboard, we want to hear about it.

You must review any computer gaming gadget you have tested thoroughly: give praise where praise is due and feel free to criticise where any shortfalls spell a dud. You should include details of any game played with the accessory, and comment on the overall gaming performance. The judges prefer witty, maverick observations to the mundane.

Entries must be highly legible and between 200 and 350 words. Please give the full name of the gadget as well as the manufacturer or distributor, together with your name, age, address and a daytime telephone number. Clearly mark your entry: Cyberspace Thirteen, Computer Games, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You may also fax entries to us on 0171-729 6791. The closing date for the competition is midnight on Tuesday March 28 and, as usual, the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

Next week we look at id Software's latest sequel in the "Doom" mould — "Heretic" — and ask whether the company is running out of ideas or going from strength to strength. We also look at pretenders to its throne, including Interplay's "Descent".

TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

TODAY's hand requires knowledge of the mechanics of duplicate bridge. After the bidding has finished, the play proceeds with each player putting their card face up in front of them, rather than playing it into the middle. When the trick is over, the cards are turned face down and the next trick starts. So at the end of the hand, each player has in front of them their original 13 cards, face down, in the sequence in which they were played.

At the end of the hand, the players scoop up their played cards and put them in the board (the device used for transferring the complete deal to the next table). That means that the order in which the cards were played is preserved — the first card will be on the bottom of the face-down pile, and the last card on the top (and *vice versa* if you look at the face side).

How would you set about the hand below? It is a teams' match, and the hand has already been played when it comes to you.

♠74
♥K83
♦KQJ4
♣K753

N
W E
S

♠AJ6
♥AQJ
♦1092
♣A642

Contract: 3 NT.
Opening lead: three of spades

After the simple auction of One No-Trump (15-17) by you, and Three No-Trumps by North, you receive the lead of the three of spades. East plays the king — what do you do?

After knocking out the ace of diamonds you will have nine tricks — one spade, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. There is no problem if the spades are 4-4, so you should assume they are 5-3. In that case the defence may have four spade tricks along with the ace of diamonds, so you have to decide whether to hold up the ace of spades.

If East has the ace of diamonds, it is best to hold off and take the third spade — now when East gets in he will not have another spade. But if West has the ace of diamonds, the winning play is to take the first spade — then when West gets in you will have the spades protected.

The only clue that I can see is that if West has the hypothesised five spades then he has eight non-spades. East will have ten non-spades, and on that basis it is eight to ten in favour of East holding the ace. It is a slim indication.

But what would you do if you had taken the cards out of the board and examined their sequence before sorting them? When this hand was played, the six of spades was on top then, in order, the jack of spades, the ace of spades, the ten of diamonds, the two of clubs, the four of clubs. What does that suggest? It seems that at the other table the declarer has played the six, then the jack of spades, taken the third round of spades, and played the ten of diamonds. He then had to make two discards. It seems that the ace of diamonds lies with the long spades.

Triumphantly, you win the first spade and play on diamonds, successfuly as it turns out, for this is the full deal:

♠74
♥K83
♦KQJ4
♣K753

West		East
♠Q10832	N	♠K95
♥954	W E	♥10762
♦A76	S	♦853
♣108		♣QJ9

♠AJ6
♥AQJ
♦1092
♣A642

This hand is in an article submitted to the *Bols* liqueurs bridge tips competition by Toine van Hoof of the Netherlands. His tip for countering this technique is "shuffle your cards". It's the first time I've ever heard of the technique, and van Hoof's article has generated a lot of correspondence as to whether it's cheating.

However, if you think your opponents do this sort of thing, a better way is to feed them some misinformation. If you were the declarer at the first table, you could always put your hand back in the board sorted as described, when all the time you held up the ace of spades and East held the the ace of diamonds. My Bols tip is "re-arrange your cards".

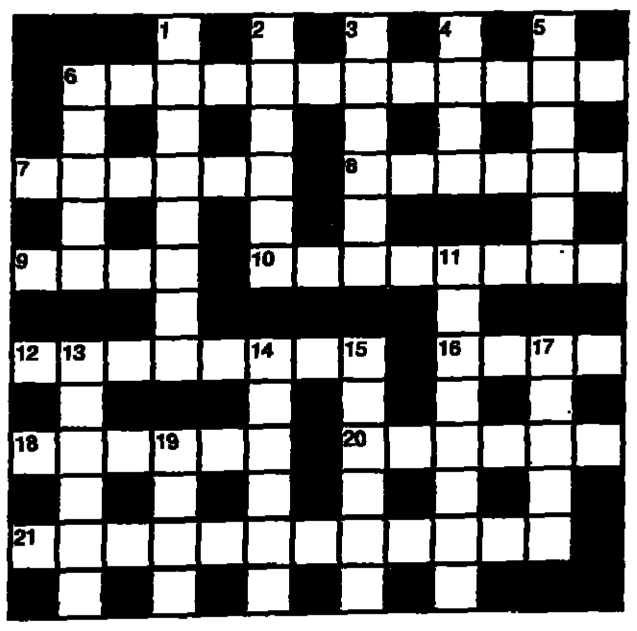
SUIT PAIRINGS

THERE were more than 50 entries to the suit pairings competition, several containing multiple suggestions. As I mentioned last week, I gave the prize to "inner" for red hearts and green diamonds, and "outer" for black spades and blue clubs. Although unromantic, it is consistent with the suit rankings. At least ten people suggested variations of the idea.

Also popular was "love" for hearts and diamonds and "war" for spades and clubs. One entrant, on a gloomy note, suggested "love" and "married". There were several expressive variants on the "female" and "male" theme, and the author of one of these assured me that "even his wife didn't find it sexist". I wouldn't like to put that to the test with the English Bridge Union militants.

Of the more erudite suggestions, I liked "courtesan" and "artesan". There were a couple of early suggestions for "bruised" for the black and blues. We may have to have a play-off if the cards do actually change — most entrants thought it was a good idea.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 417

ACROSS
6 Revenue officer (3,9)
7 Benefice; contemporary (6)
8 Bring as evidence (6)
9 Cherished (4)
10 Successful person (8)
12 Wagner Good Friday opera (8)
16 Contest: period of illness (4)
18 Binder for papers (6)
20 Traduce (6)
21 Exhibit shame (4,4,4)

DOWN
1 A book-plate (2-6)
2 Mystery (6)
3 Slop liquid (over) (6)
4 Sharp, corrosive (4)
5 Cleansing jet (6)
6 Platitudinous (5)
11 Supply courage (10) (8)
13 Without ethical principles (6)
14 Starchy flour, powder (6)
15 Extravagant (6)
17 Given nothing to eat (5)
19 Old ruler of Venice (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 416

ACROSS: 1 Hatchet job 8 Check-up 9 Alert 10 Shed 11 Domineer 13 Bingo 14 Calve 16 Unturned 17 Shop 20 Creed 21 Doublet 22 Keep tabs on

DOWN: 1 Hocus 2 There and then 3 Hike 4 Top dog 5 Of a piece 6 Beverly Hills 7 Starve 12 Porridge 13 Brunch 15 Send up 18 Put on 19 Aura

CROSSWORD BOOKS : **The Times Concise Crosswords**: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each), Books 3,4,5,6 & **NEW Book 7** £4.50 each. **The Times Jumbo Crosswords**: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each, Concise Book £5.99). **The Times Crosswords** : (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each). Books 14 to 18 & **NEW Book 19** £4.50 each. **The Sunday Times Crosswords** — (Book 1 £4.99). Books 10,11,12 & **NEW** Book 13 £4.50 each.**The Sunday Times Concise**: Books 1,2,3 £4.50 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for **IBM PCs** and **Acorn Archimedes** computers — **Price** £14.95 each — also The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6. The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition.
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THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3296: WHODUNNIT by MONK

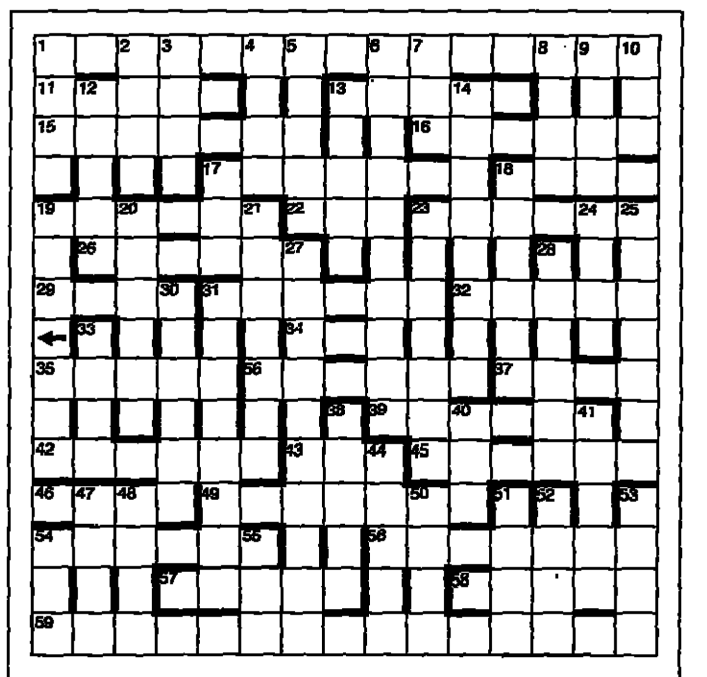
SOLVERS are to deduce both the *sender and the recipient of the arrow* which lies in the grid. Every clue contains a thematic deficiency in the subsidiary indication, and numbers in brackets refer to the lengths of the lights as entered in the grid. Unindicated letters should first be 25 then replaced in the grid by a representation of one of the lights: this process identifies the victim.

The grid should now be read row by row (from top to bottom) so that the replaced 25 letters spell out a synonym for 19dn (6 letters), the true location of which is indicated by the murder weapon. In order to identify the killer (who should be shaded on the grid), solvers should follow the arrow's possible path to its victim.

One conjugation of a common phrasal verb is in *Chambers Phrase File* (1993). All normal lights, including two abbreviations, are in *Chambers* (1993), which also confirms the theme. Ignore two accents: one in a subsidiary indication, one in a light.

ACROSS
1 A philosophy involved in materialisations (15)
11 (See 7)
13 In real trouble, fish may climb me (5)
15 We make slime train around article, see? (7)
16 Wry, shy consequence is Edmund's disgrace (6)
17 Goodness! A large one beginning to complain of a pain in the neck? (7)
18 Fence witnessed in fox-eradication (4)
19 No longer provided backing for men after the match (6)
22 Right-on snippets of acidic humour give little cheer (3)
23 Record Dominica's tropical tree (6)
26 Recurring pattern in non-vocalic "*Eire Ahoy*" theme (6)
29 Cut down heartless summing up (4)
31 Away no more, one at home is devoured by corruption (6)
32 English rent Scottish means of rapid communication (5, hyphenated)
34 Certainly not strong ale (3)
35 Bury together (5)
36 Losing heart in root beer and gaining confidence (6)
37 Watch our parcels pet (4)
39 Derivative of silica, like the Earth's crust (6)
42 United Kingdom substitutes American part of sausage dog (6)
43 According to hearsay, bears Jock's grandchildren (3)
45 It's wretchedly bad to set free (6)
46 Officer advanced in a small unit (4)
49 Animal to run round on road (7)
54 One artful Indo European and I will be found (6)
56 Two chaps spanning a round sofa (7, hyphenated)
57 Huge fish almost gets an award (5)
58 Measures the French yarn (5)
59 Variety of soy, hoed with much loam, with calyx and corolla similar (15)

DOWN
1 Haul apart in part a hall (4)
2 Society member, one turning up for small gathering of civil servants (4)
3 Rush before committee? That would be right (4)
4 Exist within bounds of orthodoxy (4)
5 Potentate acting in silk dress (5)
6 Hauling construction to that extent? N-NO? (10, hyphenated)
7 and 11 Morse to leave the ground in it by Yard's entrance (8, hyphenated)
8 Goat's little liking for black holm-oak (4)
9 Function without (4)
10 I rode a motorbike, shunning exercise (3)
12 Note lecturer, before other ranks, delivering aristocratic address (5)
13 Raise cap (around eye to ear) for one in Olive's family (5)
14 Man on the run with nothing for a rifle (8)
17 University's top degree lacking substance (3)
18 Like Celtic characters of Galloway's western quarter (mostly Irishmen) (6)
19 *See preamble*
20 Principal in Kashmir absorbed by habit forming yoga (6)
21 Through management buy-in, they affect circulation (7)
23 Albert, regularly on edge, gives the game away (7, two words)
24 A little caterpillar (4)
25 *See preamble*
27 Crest opposite round face of a growing flower stem (10)
28 Expensive car (present, it's said) incurring government revenues (6)
30 A little easy number in cushy vacuum? *Au contraire* (6)
31 A female with a bit of a raw, rough skin on tongue (8)
33 A tapir with fantastic guts (4)
38 Possibly one who joins ex-officer of royal household (5)
40 Idiot lost gold farthing (3)
41 Spring onion seen around rising branches (5)
44 Place of utter depravity with corrupt 52 suppressing maiden (5)
47 Filipino Muslim, one with a low IQ forgets name (4)
48 In Docklands, believe him and his mate (4)
50 Line round unknown vehicle (4)
51 Caledonian jackdaw that's swallowed one old key (4)
52 G - - ath? (4)
53 Follows ancient customs (4)
54 Expiry, primarily in Scottish houses (3)
55 Genuine, wanting time to augment, according to Will (3)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3296

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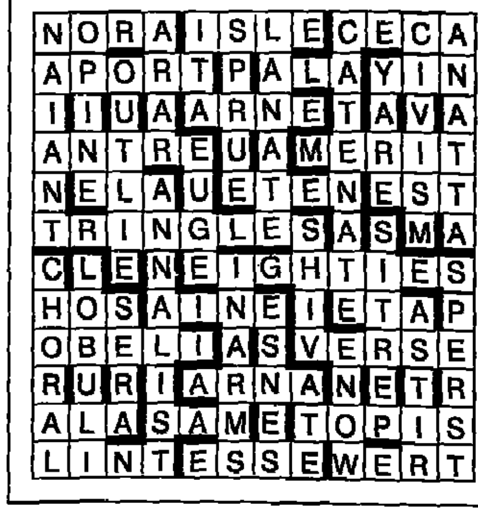

N	O	R	A	I	S	L	E	C	E	C	A
A	P	O	R	T	P	A	L	A	Y	I	N
I	I	U	A	A	R	N	E	T	A	V	A
A	N	T	R	E	U	A	M	E	R	I	T
N	E	L	A	U	E	T	E	N	E	S	T
T	R	I	N	G	L	E	S	A	S	M	A
C	L	E	N	E	I	G	H	T	I	E	S
H	O	S	A	I	N	E	I	E	T	A	P
O	B	E	L	I	A	S	V	E	R	S	E
R	U	R	I	A	R	N	A	N	E	T	R
A	L	A	S	A	M	E	T	O	P	I	S
L	I	N	T	E	S	S	E	W	E	R	T

Solution to No 3293: Innards by Machiavelli

1 B LINT Z (44)
4 Q WERT Y (46)
7 P ETA R (34)
10 L ARNA X (39)
12 K ISLE V (4)
13 Z ARNE C (14)
14 A NORA K (1)
15 R AINE D (32)
17 H APORT H (10)
18 U TOPIS M (43)
20 T ALA Q (41)
21 N YIN G (13)
22 C ANTRE F (15)
27 D ETEN U (20)
30 M EST O (21)
32 E MERIT I (17)
34 V ESSE L (45)
36 S TRINGLES S (22)
37 F ALA J (12)
39 X HOS A (30)
41 J ELA B (18)
42 O VERSE W (37)
43 I CECA P (7)
44 G OBELI N (36)
45 Y SAM E (42)
46 W EIGHTIES T (27)

The winner, who receives book tokens worth £50, is John M. Brown, of Rolleston-on-Dove, Staffs. Book tokens worth £20 go to J.S. Parker, of Claygate, Surrey, and Mrs S Jordan, of Didcot, Oxon.

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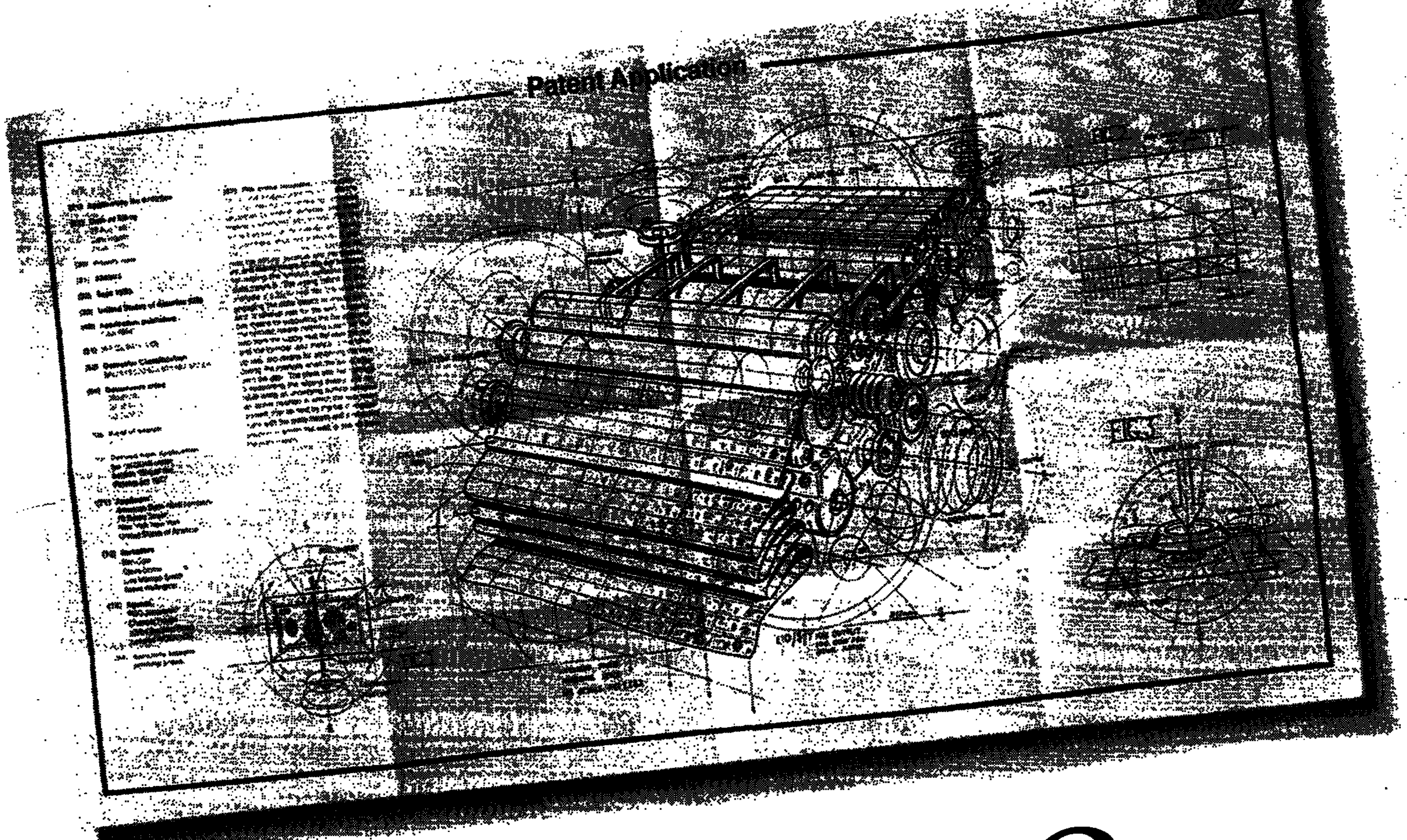

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THE TIMES MONEY GUIDE 4

Personal Finance
and Tax Review

SATURDAY MARCH 11 1995

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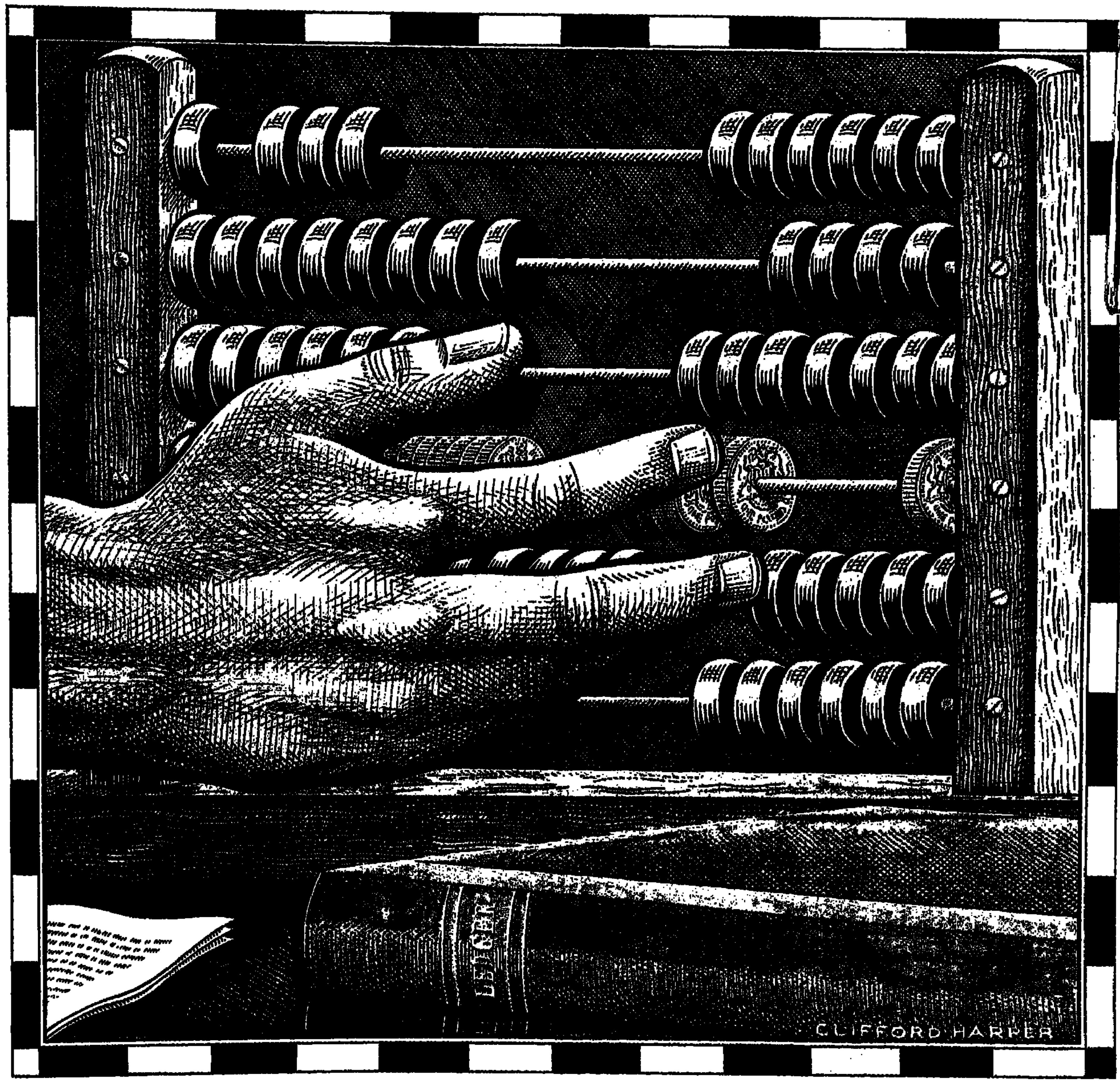

As the current financial year comes to a close, **Liz Dolan** turns the spotlight on to underused tax allowances —

Cash in on end-of-year savings

Hurry, hurry. You have just 25 days in which to minimise your liabilities and maximise your allowances before the gates slam shut on this year's tax breaks.

■ **Family tax planning.** All family members should be making use of their full personal tax allowances. This includes children. Consider using joint ownership of assets to transfer income. Also, pass on assets to your spouse, so that both of you make maximum use of your capital gains tax (CGT) exemption, and the gains can be realised at a lower rate of tax.

■ **Personal equity plans.** There is still time to invest any unused portion of this year's Pep allowance. But timing your move is more important than tax relief when it comes to buying equities. If share prices subsequently nosedive, you may lose more than you gain.

■ **Capital Gains Tax.** This year's £5,800 CGT exemption cannot be carried forward into the next tax year. But all is not lost. Sell assets to realise gains and then buy them back immediately, to use up this year's allowance and minimise taxable gains in future years. This is called "bed and breakfasting". Use the same method to consolidate losses. If you are thinking of selling an asset that will take you over your £5,800 allowance, consider spreading the sale over two years. If this is impossible, could you delay the sale until next year to postpone the tax payment date?

■ **Inheritance Tax (IHT).** You and your spouse can each give away £3,000 every year without incurring IHT liability. Once you have used up this year's allowance, you will also be able to take advantage of any unused exemption for 1993/94.

■ **Pensions.** If you have a personal pension plan, and you have paid less than the maximum allowed into the plan in any of the previous six years, you may be able to "carry back" or "carry forward" unused tax relief. Members of occupational pensions get tax relief against this year's income by making additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) or free-standing AVCs before April 5.

■ **Charitable giving.** Consider large single gifts to charities under gift aid before April 5 for tax relief in the current year.

■ **Work-related benefits.** Run a check on the mileage on your company car to see if you can be taxed on a lower amount. If your private petrol consumption is low, it may be cheaper to reimburse your employer for all private petrol than to pay tax on the scale charge applied to the fuel benefit. Check the cost of private calls on a mobile phone supplied by your employer to see whether it is cheaper to refund the cost of the calls, or pay tax on the flat rate charge.

■ **Further assistance.** Financial adviser, David Aaron Partnership (01908 281544), has a free guide: *Year End Tax Planning — How To Make The Most Of It*. Chartered accountant, Kingston Smith (0171 377 8888), will check tax codes for £29.38. Problem areas include adjustments for married couple's allowance, car and other benefits provided by employers, pension premium relief and adjustments for potential underpayment on higher rate liability, the accountant says.

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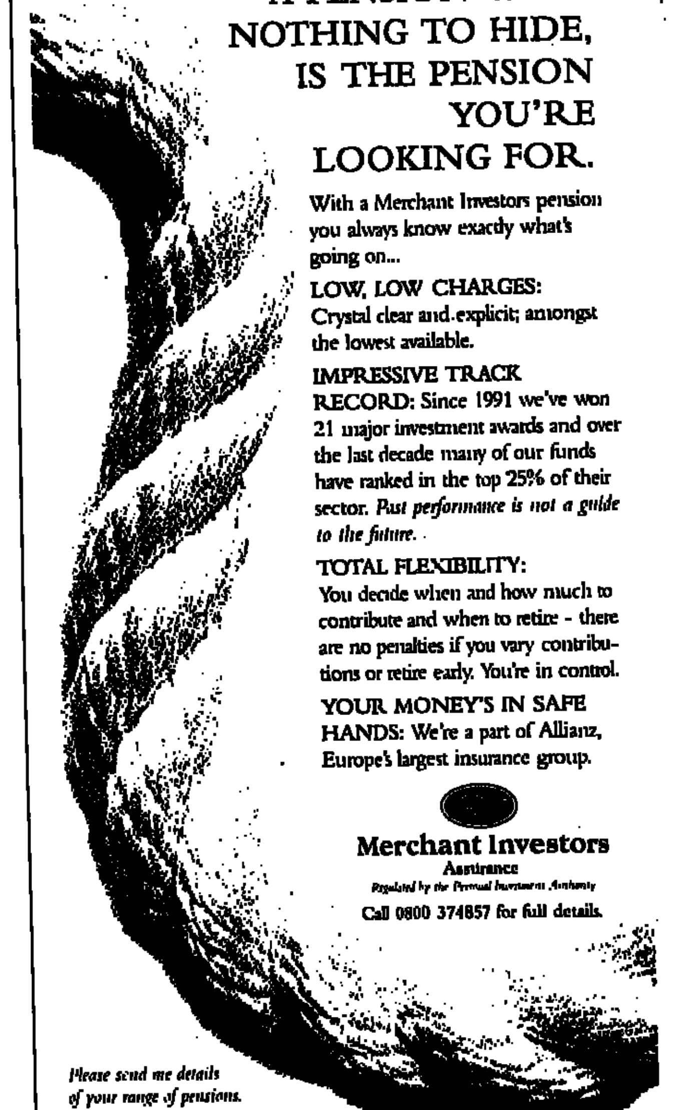

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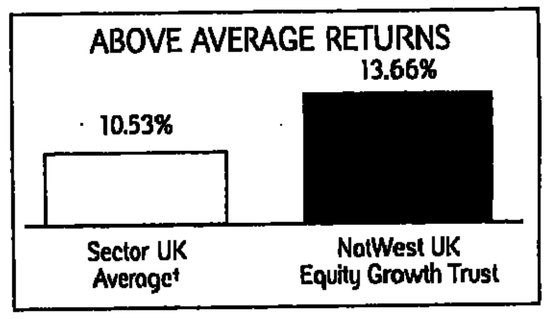

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†This represents the performance 31 December 1992 to 28 February 1995, offer to bid, net income reinvested. Source: HINDSIGHT.

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Make or break over CGT

Caroline Merrell says a change in the rules this April means action is vital now to save capital gains tax

More people should consider the possible advantages of "bed and breakfasting" before the end of the current tax year because of new rules coming in after April that could substantially increase your liability for capital gains tax.

Bed and breakfasting is simply selling and then buying back investments overnight in order to avoid paying CGT.

Anyone who believes they might be liable for tax on capital gains on their investments this year or at some time in the near future should consult their accountant and their financial adviser about the best way of juggling their shares or other investments to use up their annual £5,800 allowance for capital gains tax exemption.

Maurice Parry-Wingfield, technical partner at Touche Ross, says there are three main reasons why investors should consider bed and breakfasting.

If you have made gains on some of your investments, but at the same time have incurred losses on others, it may still be worthwhile, he suggests.

He also recommends that investors who are looking at a gain could sell and buy back a loss-making investment. This loss will be offset against the gain. This may also be the moment to sell off forever, in the most tax-efficient way, any loss-making investments that an investor holds.

Mr Parry-Wingfield points out that at the moment indexation is included in assessing capital gains, ie, the retail prices index is included when calculating a gain or loss.

From next year, indexation will not be included if it increases a loss or changes a gain into a loss. He says: "Many people may have losses going back many years. Indexation may be carried forward."

This year, for example, an investor could sell shares in one company and make £14,300 profit, and also sell shares in another company and break even. If £8,500 worth of indexation is applied to the second company, then the total capital gain is £5,800 which is exempt from tax.

Under the new rules, the £8,500 indexation cannot be applied to the second company because it has the effect of increasing a loss. If the investor was a higher-rate taxpayer, he would be liable for £5,720 of tax on the £14,300 gain.

THE ADVERTISING ARCHIVES

When the chips are down: bed and breakfasting can help investors to offset losses

BED AND PEPPING

Over recent years, as more people have become aware of personal equity plans as a method of sheltering from capital gains tax, a system known as "bed and pepping" has become commonplace.

This is where investors sell and buy back shares and immediately put them into a Pep, sheltering them from CGT for ever.

Many unit trust companies offer investors who want to bed and pep their unit trusts a discount on buying back the units. Chris Rees, M&G administrator, says that many M&G customers sell units at the end of the tax year and buy them back within a Pep.

He adds: "We sell the units at the bid price and buy them back into the Pep at the bid price plus 1.5 per cent. It is considered as new money. The investor is just crystallising the gain for capital gains tax purposes."

Perk up your pension before April 5

Liz Dolan explains how to get the most from tax allowances

Now is the season for young men to have romantic fancies, for SAD sufferers to manage the odd bleak smile and for pension experts to start mumbling about carry forwards, carry backs, free-standing additional voluntary contributions and net relevant earnings.

Pension planning jargon can muddle the clearest brain at any time of the year, but the confusion reaches its peak in the run-up to April 5 as advisers try and help you make maximum use of annual allowances before the end of the tax year. Take the trouble to discover what they are talking about and it may cut your tax bill.

If you are self-employed, or cannot join a company pension scheme, consider making extra contributions to personal pension plans and retirement annuity policies in this tax year.

■ **Carry backs:** If you did not use up your maximum permissible contributions last year, you can choose to have part of this year's contribution "carried back" to 1993/94. This may result in a tax refund. If you had no relevant earnings in 1993/94 and did not pay your maximum contribution in 1992/93, you can carry back contributions to 1992/93. Tax relief relates to your appropriate tax band for your earnings in 1993/94. Limits on annual contributions vary depending on age and are subject to an earnings cap of £76,800 (£78,600 next year).

■ **Carry forward:** If you had relevant earnings in the past 6 years and did not pay maximum contributions, you can carry forward unused relief. Tax relief relates to the year in which the contribution is paid, unless it is carried back. Unused relief can only be used if the maximum contribution has been paid in the year to which the extra contributions relate.

■ **Net relevant earnings:** The maximum annual contribution you can make to a personal pension scheme is a percentage of your net relevant earnings. For employees who are not in an occupational scheme, these include the taxable value of fringe benefits, after the deduction of allowable expenses. If you are self-employed, they are your taxable profits, less payments such as patent royalties.

■ **AVCs and FSAVCs:** If you are a member of an occupational pension you can make additional voluntary contributions (AVCs), either via your employer's scheme or by making your own arrangements with an insurance company (free-standing AVCs). You should do this before April 5 to get relief against this year's income. Contributions are limited to 15 per cent of earnings each year.

It pays to shop around for B&B

Most brokers and many unit trust companies offer discounted rates for bed and breakfasting. Justin Urquhart-Stewart, Barclays Stockbrokers' planning director, said investors should shop around to get the best deal.

"All stockbrokers have different facilities for bed and breakfasting. Often investors would only have to pay commission on one side of the transaction. However, there is no guarantee the difference between buying and selling prices will be small."

A sudden market change overnight could force investors into buying back shares at a much higher price than that at which they sold them. Ray Silvester, a consultant with Ellis & Co, the broker, said investors should sell their shares late one day and buy them back early the next. "The problems of changes in the market is why you are not allowed to bed and breakfast over the weekend," he said. Ellis charges one commission — 1.85 per cent — for bed and breakfasting.

The Share Centre offers a bed and breakfasting service for 1 per cent commission with a £7.50 minimum. A spokeswoman said the repurchase of the shares had to be done through a nominee account. She said: "This service may be more suitable for those people who already deal with us."

ShareLink, the biggest execution-only broker, also does not charge commission on the repurchase of shares in a bed and breakfast deal. For selling shares it would charge a maximum of £50 and a minimum of £20. For the first £2,500 of shares it charges 1.5 per cent commission, for the next £2,500 it charges 0.75 per cent commission, for anything over £5,000 it charges 0.5 per cent.

Fidelity Brokerage is also offering to waive the repurchase commission. The company offers a staggered commission rate according to the value of shares to be sold. The commission rate starts at £25 for shares up to £2,500 and rises to a maximum £250 on £40,000 worth of shares or more.

Fidelity has a free phone number for investors who want to bed and breakfast. The offer is available to everyone. Orders can be placed with Fidelity up to noon on April 5. C.M.

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and suggests ways you might reduce your liability

THE ADVERTISING ARCHIVES

Take a break: tax benefits can go to waste at this time of year, so check your finances

Be your own financial expert

ANNE ASHWORTH

The sagas of failed investment firms have one feature in common: the otherwise sane and sensible individuals who have entrusted their money to one persuasive "financial adviser" simply because he promised to relieve them of the responsibility of looking after their own affairs.

The same people who look askance at claims for new soap powders and consult half a dozen specialist magazines before even test-driving a car are somehow prepared to believe every word of a man who claims to be George Soros, only better. Those who follow The Archers will remember how even the resourceful Marjorie Antrobus, a control freak in tweeds, fell victim to the fraudster Cameron Fraser. The mellifluous Fraser was modelled on the real-life swindler Robert Miller, of Dunsdale Securities, who deprived his 200 or so clients of £8 million. Later, in Ford open prison, he learnt a new trade, Punch & Judy man, diverting his histrionic talents into less harmful public contact.

Reading about the experiences of those who have lost their savings in the Miller debacle, and the other investment scandals of the past decade, can be unnerving. But it can also encourage you to acquire "knowledge" as a self-defence.

On the basis that information is power, this week's Money Guide explains how to make the best use of the various Inland Revenue concessions before the April 5 tax year end, see left and page 14. For year round money management and investment hints, see pages 8-9.

The new self-assessment system will affect you if you fill in a tax return. To find an accountant for support, read pages 6-7. If you want to make better use of your money, think about a will (page 5), a trust (page 10), an exotic Pep (page 12), or a pension.

RESEARCH → ANALYSIS → MEASUREMENT → UNDERSTANDING

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> *Money Observer, January 1995*

ACT BEFORE 5TH APRIL

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Peps that go far afield for faster growth

Caroline Merrell looks at the benefits and risks of non-qualifying investments

Personal equity plans are sold primarily as a means of saving tax. But the point of the exercice should also be to spread your risk and that may mean looking overseas, beyond the EU. The economies of many countries are growing faster than those in Europe. Pep investors can harness this extra growth through a plan that invests in these so-called "non-qualifying markets".

Three years ago the Government relaxed the rules concerning investment in non-qualifying markets. Now investors can put up to £1,500 of their annual Pep investment in recognised markets overseas.

This extra facility for spicing up a Pep can produce some spectacular capital growth. Anyone who put the non-qualifying slice of their Pep into Hong Kong three years ago will now have more than doubled their money. The Pep concessions mean this gain is free from tax. However, such markets often incur more risk — Hong Kong has fallen sharply in the past few months.

There are a number of different investment houses that offer Peps with a non-qualifying element. Peter Tonkin, manager and independent financial adviser for Towry Law, will recommend Peps with a non-qualifying element to more sophisticated clients. He says: "I favour those from Gartmore, Prolific and Perpetual."

Gartmore's global Pep invests in a selection of six qualifying unit trusts and four non-qualifying unit trusts. The four non-qualifying funds concentrate on Hong Kong, Japan, America and a mix of other countries. Jim Clark, Gartmore's technical director, points out that this type of Pep can be useful for anyone trying to balance their Pep portfolio.

Investors who have taken out a plan every year since they were introduced will now be very exposed to the UK market. Mr Clark says: "We leave it to the individual to build their own portfolio. We will 'risk-rate' each fund and investors can pick and choose." The Gartmore Pep carries a 3 per cent initial charge and a 1.5 per cent annual charge. Gartmore will charge a flat fee of £25 to switch between markets.

Prolific's Pep offers investments in eight qualifying and six non-qualifying funds. The non-qualifying funds allow investors to put their money in America, the Far East or in a specialised technology fund. The charges are 5.25 per cent initial and 1.25 per cent annual. Prolific will charge 1 per cent to switch between funds.

Perpetual's global Pep offers six qualifying and eight non-qualifying unit trusts. The charges on the Pep are 5.25 per cent initial and 1.5 per cent annual. It will also offer a 5 per cent discount for switching.

Invesco's Taxhaven Pep offers investment in a choice of nine qualifying and five non-qualifying unit trusts. It has a 3 per cent initial charge, a 1.5 per cent annual charge and will allow the investor to switch for free between the trusts.

Skandia's multi-Pep offers investments in a wide range of unit trusts. Its initial charge is 4.75 per cent and the annual charge is 1.5 per cent. The Pep does, however, carry a dividend collection fee of £2-£5, depending on the frequency of the dividend's distribution.

THE TIMES

Win a £6,000 PEP

A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and today *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, offers you the third of four opportunities to win a PEP worth £6,000.

Answer the questions below, and collect four of the six PEP tokens which will appear until next Friday, and you could win an investment in your choice of three TSB unit trusts:

- ● The TSB UK Income Fund aims to provide a high-income return with the potential for some capital growth over the longer term, from investments in Britain;
- ● The TSB UK Growth Fund invests in a wide range of UK ordinary shares and aims for long-term capital growth;
- ● The TSB Worldwide Growth Fund aims for long-term capital growth from a broad spread of international securities, with at least half of the fund invested in Europe.

These three funds, which were launched in November 1994, have all ranked in the top quartile of their particular unit trust sectors over the past three months.* Because of the regulations governing PEPs, winners will receive a holding in the unit trust of their choice. Provided they are eligible, they will be able to convert this to a PEP at no cost either immediately or, if they have already taken out a PEP this year, after the end of the current financial year.

A PEP investment is an excellent home for long-term savings, with all income and capital growth exempt from both income tax and capital gains tax. Readers can obtain full details of TSB PEPs at their nearest TSB Bank branch.

How to enter

Collect four of the six tokens which will be appearing over the next week and send them on a postcard with the answer to today's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 22, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 4, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC88 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested. (As at 18.2.95).

The questions

1) What is the highest rate of income tax in the UK?

2) Is income from PEP investments subject to income tax and is any capital gain taxable?

Tie-breaker: in no more than 15 words, explain why you would like to win a £6,000 TSB Personal Equity Plan.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1) Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.
2) The competition is open to individuals aged 18 and over who are UK residents.
3) The competition is not open to employees of TSB or Times Newspapers Ltd or their families.
4) The winner of this weekly competition will be announced shortly after the closing date of March 22.
5) There will be one winner for each of the weekly competitions and this will be the entrant who has correctly answered the questions and, in the opinion of the judges, has completed the tie-breaker in the most apt and original way. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into.
6) Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery. Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries lost or delayed in the post.
7) Winners will be notified by post within 14 days of judging. Details of the winning entry will be available by sending an SAE to the promotional address after the end of the competition.
8) Prizes will be in the form of £6,000 in one of the following unit trusts: UK Growth, UK Income, or Worldwide Growth Fund. If eligible, the winner can choose to convert the investment into the TSB Tax Free Savings Plan, TSB's Personal Equity Plan, free of charge. There is no cash alternative.
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THE TIMES
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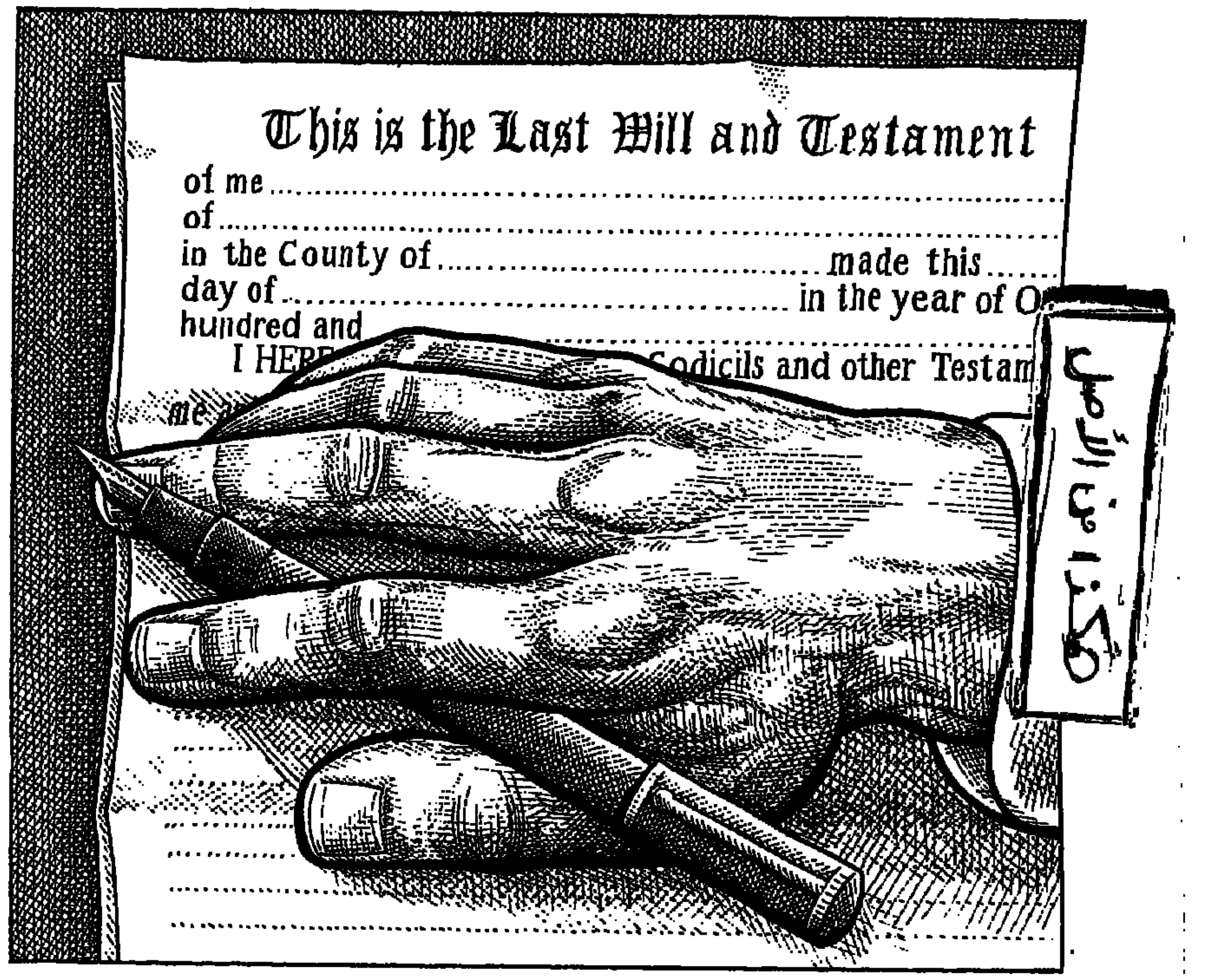
Failing to draw up a will can be costly for your heirs. Helen Pridham reports

Where there's a will, there are tax savings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Seven out of every ten people in Britain never get around to making a will. Yet the consequences of having no will are not just that your money may not go where you want it to after your death but that a substantial chunk of it could end up going to the Treasury in tax, rather than to your beneficiaries. Indeed it is calculated that up to £720 million is lost in inheritance tax each year because people fail to take simple steps to avoid it, in particular making a suitable will.

There is nothing to stop you drawing up your own will but Brian King, a will specialist at solicitor Wayman Hales, says people often make mistakes in a DIY will which can make matters worse. "For example, they don't get the witnessing formalities right. Beneficiaries must not act as witnesses. If they do, they will lose their legacy," he says.

There are plenty of businesses ready to draw up your will for you although, according to survey by *Which?* magazine last year, you need to be careful — they do not all do a good job and some insist on acting as executors which can be very costly. Will-writing services, insurance companies, building societies and banks are all now offering to do what was previously the preserve of the local solicitor. Indeed, Allied Dunbar, the insurance company, which launched a national will-writing service last summer, now claims to be the largest single provider in the market, having drawn up more than 10,000 wills over the last eight months.

A well-drawn will can take advantage of all the inheritance tax-saving avenues available and the cost should not be high if your affairs are straightforward — just over £50 is the average charge for drawing up a will according to *Which?*. The potential savings in inheritance tax can be substantial.

One of the reasons people do not make wills is that they underestimate how much they are worth. "They forget that they are probably worth more dead than alive," says Simon Phillips of accountant Binder Hamlyn.

The combination of a home, payouts from life insurance and pension policies, a few shares, cash in a building society account and other savings can soon push you into the inheritance tax bracket. The value of your investments may also receive an uplift because capital gains tax liabilites disappear on your death.

Do what you can to disinherit Kenneth Clarke

If you do not stipulate who gets what from your estate when you die, the rules of intestacy will do it for you

Inheritance tax starts to bite when your assets reach £150,000 (the limit rises to £154,000 from April 6). No tax is payable on amounts below this level but anything above the threshold is subject to tax at 40 per cent. So on an estate worth £350,000, for instance, the tax bill would currently amount to £80,000 (40 per cent on the £200,000 excess over the £150,000 nil rate band).

Some people assume their spouse will automatically get everything when they die and that, since transfers between spouses are free of inheritance tax, there is no advantage in making a will. However, the laws of intestacy mean your spouse will not necessarily get everything, and if you are not married to your partner, he or she may get nothing.

Moreover, if you have children it is advisable to look further ahead. As David Major, of accountant Touche Ross, points out: "If you leave everything to your spouse, it means that when it is eventually passed on to your children the nil rate band can only be applied once. But if the first partner to die leaves £150,000 to the children free of tax, and the second partner leaves the remainder, a further £150,000 can be left free of tax. This way you can double up the nil rate band . . . and save tax of 40 per cent on the second £150,000."

Rites of passage: unusual funeral arrangements are often specified in the will

However, all advisers urge that passing money on in this way needs careful consideration. Richard Bark Jones, of solicitor Morecroft, Dawson & Garnetts, points out: "It is important that the surviving spouse is still left with enough to live on. You shouldn't let tax be your only consideration." But he points out that, if you haven't enough free capital, there are alternatives, though they can also have drawbacks.

"One approach is to leave your children a half share in the family home, though there is a risk that they might force the surviving parent to sell the house to cash in on their share," says Mr Bark Jones. Before you can do this you will also have to arrange for ownership of the property to be as tenants-in-common, rather than the more usual form of joint ownership whereby a house automatically passes to your partner on death.

Mr Bark Jones adds: "Alternatively, if you have capital but your partner still needs an income from it, you could consider setting up a discretionary trust with an amount equal to the nil rate band. The trustees will then have the discretion to pass the income generated by this capital to the surviving partner, but the capital itself will remain outside that partner's estate and can be passed to the children free of tax later".

If beneficiaries are willing, it may still be possible to organise a deceased person's estate in this way, even if he or she has died intestate, by means of a deed of variation, providing you act within two years of death.

When drawing up your will it may also be relevant to consider how an inheritance will affect your children's tax position. If they are older and have already built up substantial assets themselves, they may have their own inheritance tax concerns. Your legacy could simply add to the tax payable on their estates. In this case, you could consider skipping a generation and leaving some or all of your money to your grandchildren.

The nature of your assets will also play a role. Simon Philips, of accountants Binder Hamlyn, says: "If you are leaving a family business or farmland, full inheritance tax relief can be obtained but it is important that your will is drawn up correctly."

A will can naturally have many other purposes besides saving tax. If you have young children, for example, it enables you to specify who you wish their guardians to be, should you die before they grow up. You may also wish to stipulate any funeral arrangments. Apart from everything else, it also helps to speed things up. If you die intestate, it can take more than a year before probate is granted. Where there is a will it need take only a few months.

WHO GETS WHAT?

The rules of intestacy in England and Wales are as follows:

■ If you are unmarried and have no children, your estate goes to your parents or, if they are dead, to your brothers, sisters or other close relatives.

■ If you have no relatives, your estate goes to the Crown.

■ If you are married, and have no children, your spouse gets the first £200,000 and half the balance, the other half goes to your parents; if your parents are dead, however, the other half goes to your brothers and sisters.

■ If you are married with children, your spouse gets £125,000 and a life interest in half the rest, which then passes to the children on the death of your spouse. The other half goes to the children immediately.

■ If you leave behind children but no spouse, your estate is shared equally between your children.

Finding answers to taxing questions

Sara McConnell reports on what kind of help is available for an end-of-year assessment of your financial affairs

It's that time of year again, when you realise with a sinking heart that, if you do not sort out your financial affairs in the next month, you may lose valuable tax breaks and be forced to hand hard-earned money over to the taxman. You do not, however, have either the time or the inclination to work out how to save tax and reorganise your investments. The answer may be to get someone else to do the calculations for you, or at least tell you what you should do.

So, how do you find out who is most suitable to advise you? If someone has a lot of letters after their name, should you be impressed, or do those letters spell "expensive"? If you pass a shop in the high street with a notice offering to give you cheap tax advice, should you go for it?

As the law stands, people can set up in the high street and call themselves accountants, tax consultants or anything else as long as they do not use the word "chartered" or "certified" (see panel). They do not have to be qualified and they are not regulated in any way.

So, what are your options?

■ **Your local tax office.** The Inland Revenue is putting a lot of effort into making its local offices user-friendly, with staff who are meant to know the answers to simple questions. They should, for example, be able to explain your tax coding. The offices should display a range of leaflets explaining different aspects of the tax system. Advice from your tax office is, of course, free. The Revenue has started a ten year programme of updating its computers so staff can give you full information on all your tax affairs by accessing a single computer. The programme only started in 1992 so it may not yet have reached your office, but staff should be able to ring other offices to get information.

■ **High street accountants.** These people may or may not be qualified. They may advertise their services under a variety of titles like tax adviser, tax consultant or tax accountant. Some offer to do your tax return or check your tax code for a fixed fee, or they may charge an hourly rate. If your affairs are simple this may work perfectly well. They are less likely to be willing to give you more complex advice about how to minimise your tax bill for the comparatively low fee they are charging but should be able to run through a basic year-end tax checklist. This should check that you have used all your allowances and taken advantage of tax-efficient savings schemes like Tessas and Peps.

Unqualified does not equal incompetent. But you almost certainly have less protection with an unqualified accountant because he or she is not a member of a professional body and is less likely to have indemnity insurance if you have a claim against them.

■ **Qualified accountants and tax advisers** can work on their own, be partners in a practice or be employed by a firm. There are three main types, all with different letters after their names. They are regulated by professional bodies and become members only after several years' training and passing exams (see panel).

There are no set levels of fees for using these people. What you pay depends on how complicated your affairs are and how senior your accountant is if you are using a firm. You will also pay more in London.

Andrew Shaw, a partner in Kingston Smith, a London based firm of chartered accountants, says the answer to "How much?" is "How long is a piece of string? If someone says their affairs are straightforward, they are probably a disaster". Mr Shaw and his fellow partners will give first-time clients half an hour's free consultation, which gives them time to assess the client and his or her affairs. They can then get an idea of the price. If your affairs are simple, they may be handled by a junior for £25 to £30 an hour. A senior partner would charge £140 an hour. But these fees can change if your affairs are simpler or more difficult than they first seemed. Kingston Smith will also check your tax coding for a flat £25 (plus VAT) in 48 hours.

Weight of numbers: thousands

Maurice Fitzpatrick, of Chantrey Vellacott, also chartered accountants in London, says basic tax compliance work, like codings, returns and checking assessments can be done by a senior at about £60 an hour (£40 in the provinces). Tax seniors may not be qualified but would have worked somewhere like the Revenue. Their work would be reviewed by a partner or a manager. Tax planning would be done by a partner or manager costing £100 an hour.

WHO'S WHO OF ACCOUNTANTS

■ **Chartered accountants** are regulated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the relevant region. They will have the letters FCA (fellow of the institute) or ACA (associate of the institute) after their names.

■ **Certified accountants** are regulated by the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants. They will have the letters ACCA (associate of the association) or FCCA (fellow) after their names. The only difference between certified and chartered accountants is that the training of certified accountants has a more practical emphasis and trainees are accepted for training with A levels rather than a degree.

■ **Members of the Chartered Institute of Taxation** are tax advisers not accountants, although they may also be chartered or certified accountants choosing to specialise in tax. They will have the letters ATII (associate of the institute) or FTII (fellow of the institute) after their names.

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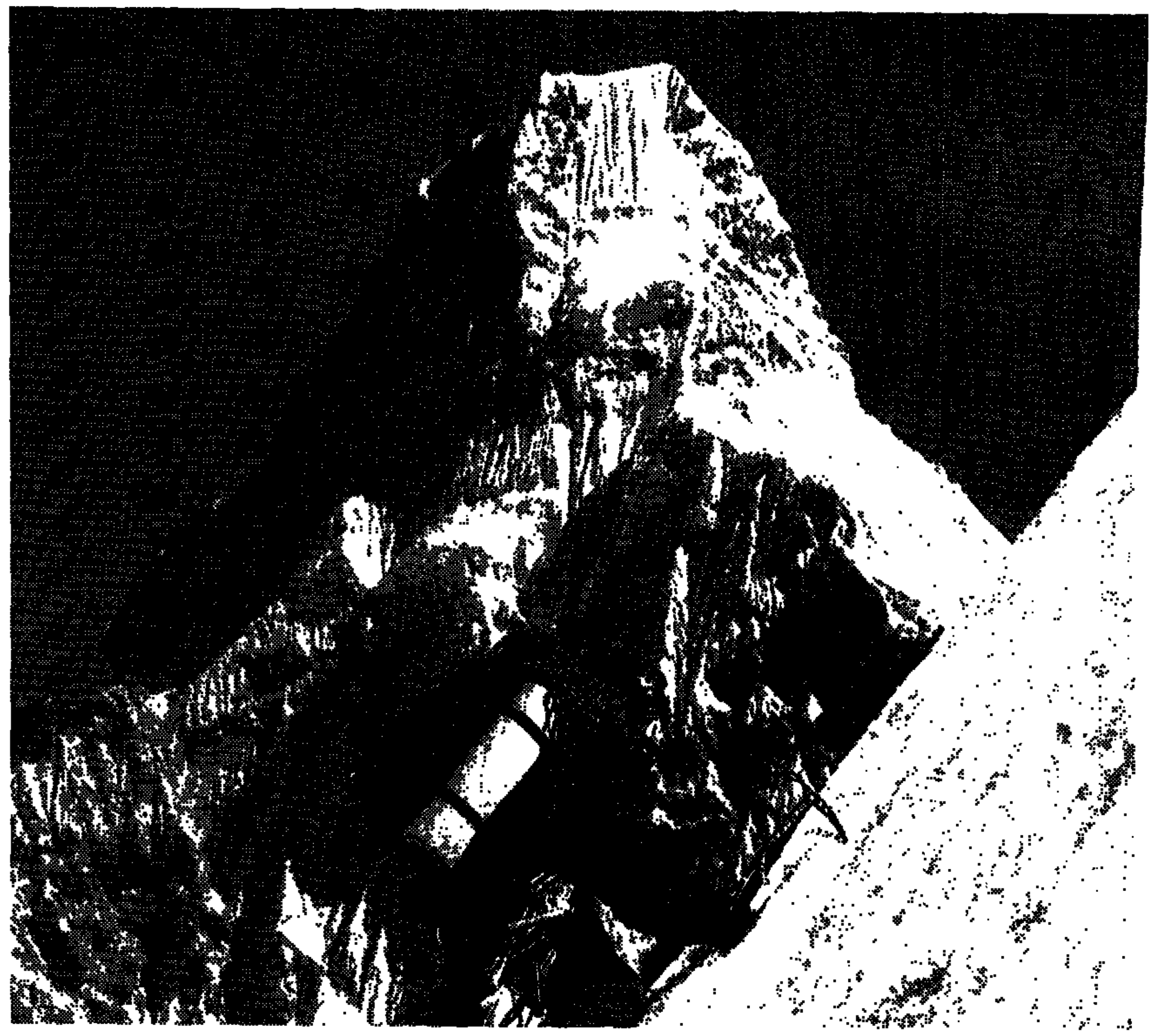

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Caroline Garnham reports on the power of trusts and some rule changes in this year's Finance Bill

When the court has to decide

THE power of a trust to preserve wealth for selected members of future generations is aptly illustrated by the recent High Court case involving Maureen, Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, far right, the granddaughter of the 1st Earl of Iveagh, founder of the Guinness brewing empire (Anne Ashworth writes).

The court ruled that Lady Dufferin, 88, was entitled to bequeath her remaining £15 million interest in a trust fund, established by her grandfather, to her granddaughters Evgenia Sands and her younger sister Ivana Citkovitz, pictured with her grandmother.

The decision was disputed by Lady Dufferin's children, who had received the substantial part of her fortune in 1948. Mrs Sands, the wife of Room with a View star Julian Sands, and Miss Citkovitz can immediately benefit from the interest from the trust. The trust's assets include estates and property in Knightsbridge.

Trusts take a few new twists

This year's Finance Bill proposes sweeping reforms to the taxation of trusts. Part 15 of the Income Corporation Taxes Act 1988, which deals with the anti-avoidance provision related to trusts, is to be replaced. Although the new provisions are designed to be simpler in their operation their final effect may in some cases differ from the old arrangements. For example, there is nothing in existing trust law to prevent our wealthy businessman Mr Jones from giving his son £100,000 in trust and providing in the trust deed a mechanism to get the money back himself at any time. However, this type of trust is not common in the UK because it is not usually tax-efficient.

Under the current rules, if the trust can be unwound or Mr Jones is a beneficiary of a discretionary trust, he will be liable to tax on *all* the income as it arises. However, if Mr Jones could benefit in some other way, he would only be liable to tax on the income that is not distributed, John being liable for the income that he receives.

This means that under existing rules you need to have detailed knowledge of the trust to know whether Mr Jones was liable to tax on all the income of the trust (whether paid to John or not) or whether it would be taxable on John. If the income were treated as John's, and if he were over 18 at the time, the income would be taxed as his. If he were under 18, it would be chargeable as Mr Jones's.

Under the changes contained in the new provisions, where Mr Jones or his wife can recover the trust fund, the income of the trust fund will be taxed as income of Mr Jones throughout the period of the trust regardless of the details of the trust and whether or not the income is paid to his son.

These rules, when read with other provisions in the Finance Bill, appear to open new planning opportunities. For example, it may be possible for Mr Jones and his wife to move abroad for a few years, create a trust in which they can recover the trust fund at a later date, but, in the meantime, pay the income to John. Under the new provision, it is arguable that the income received by John, if it arises in the UK, should be charged no further tax other than that deducted at source. If no income is deducted at source, it will be tax-free in the hands of John even though he is a 40 per cent taxpayer resident in the UK.

The Finance Bill also has new provisions concerning loans to, or from, the settlor or spouse and the trust. For example, Mr Jones sets up a trust for John and his children into which he puts the shares of a new venture, Surprise Co. Surprise succeeds and is sold for £3 million. Mr and Mrs Jones borrow £500,000 from the trust at the full commercial rate of interest. Under the new rules, if Mr and Mrs Jones fail to pay the interest in any year, they would have been taxed on the interest not paid as if it had been their income. After lobbying, these new rules have been withdrawn and the old ones remain, for now.

Good news, perhaps, but there are traps. Say the trust, rather than being for John, is for his children and the income is accumulated. It lends Mr and Mrs Jones £500,000 and they pay interest on the loan at a full rate. In this case, Mr and Mrs Jones will be liable to tax on *all* the income accumulated in the trust up to the greater of the income accumulated and the full value of the loan, ie £500,000. This aspect of the old rules should be changed.

Caroline Garnham is a tax and trust specialist with Simmons & Simmons

TRUSTS are not difficult to set up. The ingredients are a benefactor (a settlor), who wishes to make a gift to someone (the beneficiary), but does not wish that person to have control. Well-heeled entrepreneur William Jones, for example, wants John, his son, to have a house to live in while at university, but does not want him to be able to sell the house. Mr Jones sets up a trust. He opens a bank account in the name of himself and his wife in which he puts £100,000.

Mr Jones then executes a declaration of trust to the effect that he and his wife (the trustees) will invest the £100,000 for John for his life and thereafter to his children with the power reserved to the trustees to terminate the trust at any time to pay the money outright to John. The money is used to buy a house for John to live in.

After John's graduation, Mr and Mrs Jones decide to sell the house and invest the proceeds in a portfolio of shares for John. Ten years go by. Mr and Mrs Jones bring the trust to an end and give John the money. The trust, for Mr and Mrs Jones, has been cheap to run (professional fees considered) and has saved tax. The gain on the sale of the house was free from capital gains tax, the income on the portfolio was charged to tax at John's rate of tax and if Mr Jones were to die more than seven years after making the trust the £100,000, as increased over the years, would be outside the scope of inheritance tax.

Cutting the tax bill

It is often possible to make use of trusts to save tax, although this is not a game for the amateur. To give a few examples. Mr Jones's son is optimistic that shares in his new company, Bonus Co, will be as successful as Surprise Co, his other venture. The shares have already trebled from £100,000 to £300,000.

He would like to settle these shares on trust for his children to avoid inheritance tax (IHT) and mitigate the capital gains tax (CGT) liability on a sale. This can be done if the shares in Bonus Co qualify for CGT relief as business assets. Shares in a trading company or its holding company qualify if they are unquoted. If, however, they are quoted, they will still qualify if John has 5 per cent or more of the voting rights in that company.

If the trust to John's children is an interest in possession trust, (ie, all income is paid to a specific beneficiary and the statutory provisions on accumulations are excluded) any capital gain made will be charged tax at 25 per cent rather than John's 40 per cent rate. And, if John survives for seven years, the gift carries no IHT liability.

If, however, John wishes to give the shares to his children, but does not wish to sell them in the foreseeable future, rather than giving them to a trust for his children, he may prefer to give them to his father. On his death, the shares can pass under Mr Jones's will to his grandchildren. Provided they are unquoted and give Mr Jones control of 25 per cent of the firm, they will go to the children free of CGT and IHT.

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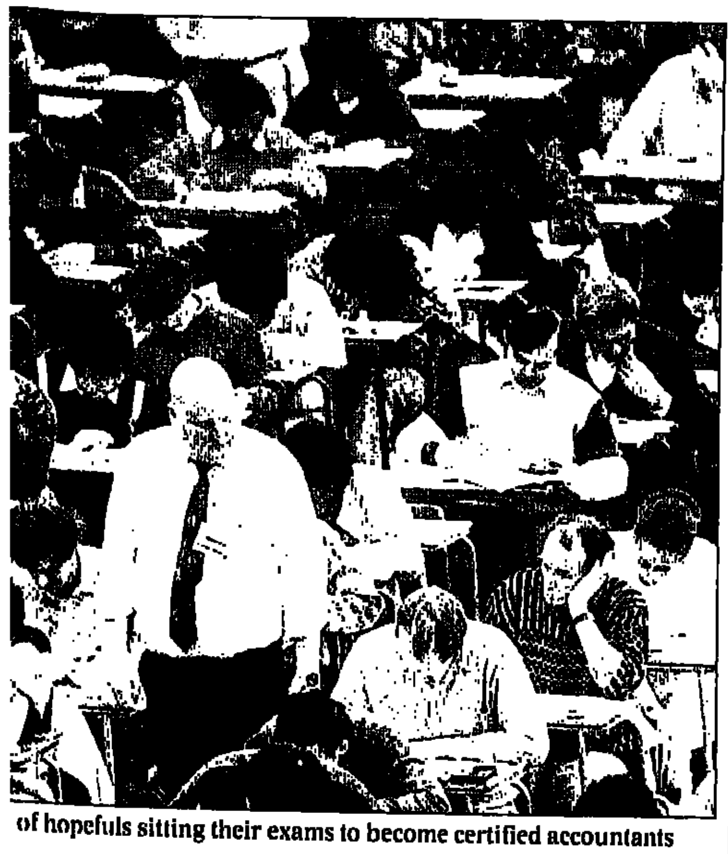

of hopefuls sitting their exams to become certified accountants

Robert Miller examines a revolution in the way income tax is assessed

Work it out for yourself

NINE million taxpayers who file annual returns face upheaval in their fiscal lives as the new self-assessment system rolls out over the next two years or so.

Employing the latest technology, and fewer people, the Inland Revenue claims that self-assessment has clearer rules and is more streamlined. In turn, says the Revenue, this will lead to a less confrontational approach to tax gathering.

Some of the self-assessment rules have been applied to businesses that have started up since the current tax year began last April. For most taxpayers, however, the first self-assessment returns will be issued in April 1997. These will have to be filed by January 31, 1998.

There are two options under self-assessment. You can either work out how much tax you owe or how much the taxman owes you. This is called the "taxpayer's calculation". Alternatively, you can leave the calculation to the tax office under a "Revenue calculation" banner. If you do leave the sums to the Revenue you will have to file the return by September 30, rather than the following January. Either way it is self-assessment because the tax bill is calculated on your own figures. These will have to be specific to items such as taxable profits, salary, benefits-in-kind and claims to relief.

Unlike the present system, self-assessment will bring together the tax you owe on all your income and capital gains.

But persistent late-filers beware. There are automatic fines of at least £100 plus interest and a 5 per cent surcharge.

Further information is available in a free leaflet, IR142 "Self-assessment — an introduction". *You can get it from tax offices and inquiry centres or the Public Enquiry Room, West Wing, Somerset House, London WC2R 1LB.*

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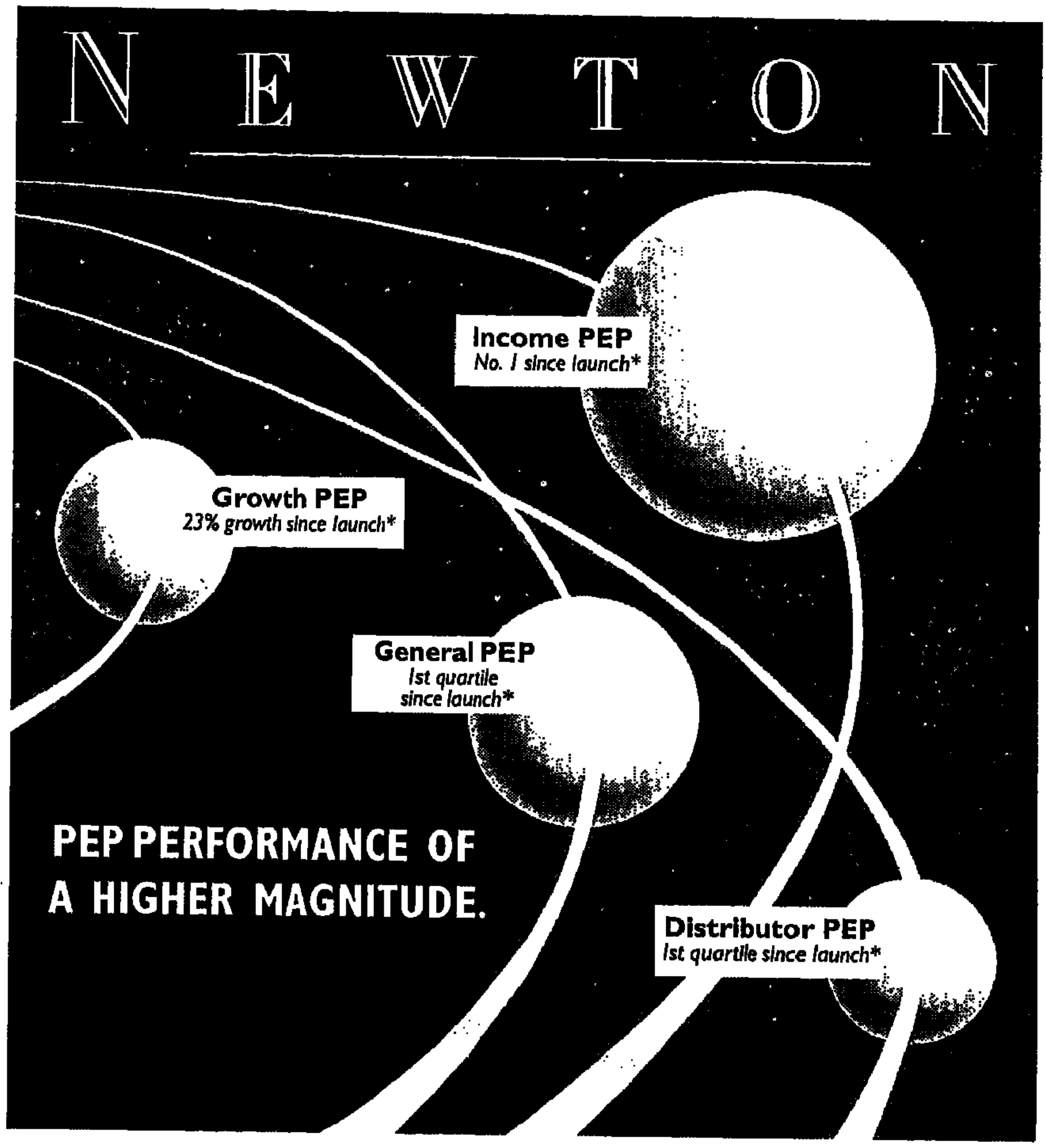

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Sara McConnell suggests some simple guidelines for managing your money

Spring clean your finances

If an advertisement urges you to "act now before the end of the tax year" you can be sure someone is trying to sell you something — usually a personal equity plan or other investment which is being promoted heavily on the basis of its claims to tax efficiency.

But making sure your money is working as efficiently for you as it can does not necessarily involve buying anything. Money management is the art of balancing your savings and borrowings and arranging your finances so that you pay out as little and get back as much as possible in interest, tax and charges. It makes sense to review your finances about this time of year so you can still claim tax allowances and make elections for the 1994/95 tax year. So where do you start?

■ **Savings in the bank or building society.** Find out what rate you are getting on your deposits. Your branch should be able to supply you with a leaflet giving the rates on all its accounts. Check that your money is not in an account closed to new business — if it is, withdraw it as it will be earning peanuts. If you are not a taxpayer, fill in form R85 to receive interest gross. Otherwise your interest will be taxed (see below). Then decide how much you realistically need to keep for instant access, to cover unexpected bills or emergencies. Postal accounts, normally instant access, pay better rates than branch-based accounts, so if your society has not got one, try one that has — Birmingham Midshires, Bradford & Bingley, Britannia or Nationwide for example. Any savings which you do not think you will need immediately should be invested elsewhere because the easier your money is to get at, the lower the rate you will be paid.

■ **Tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas).** A Tessa should be the first home for any spare deposits if you are a taxpayer and can afford to lock away savings for five years. Tessas are paying about 7 per cent tax free on average compared with about 3 to 4 per cent net on an instant access account. You can save up to £9,000 over five years, putting in a maximum of £3,000 in the first year and £1,800 in each of the following four years as long as the total does not add up to more than £9,000. Provided you do not withdraw the capital or more than 75 per cent of the interest, all your interest will be tax free. This is important for taxpayers. All other types of building society and bank deposit interest have basic rate tax deducted at source. Higher rate taxpayers have to declare the interest and pay the extra.

■ **National Savings.** If you are a taxpayer and have used up your Tessa allowance, some National Savings products (savings certificates for example) pay interest tax free. But rates have not risen for some time (fixed interest certificates are only paying 5.85 per cent tax free) and as rates on certificates are fixed, you risk getting locked into a lower rate if National Savings subsequently raises rates. If you are a nontaxpayer, you may get a better rate in a building society bond than with National Savings.

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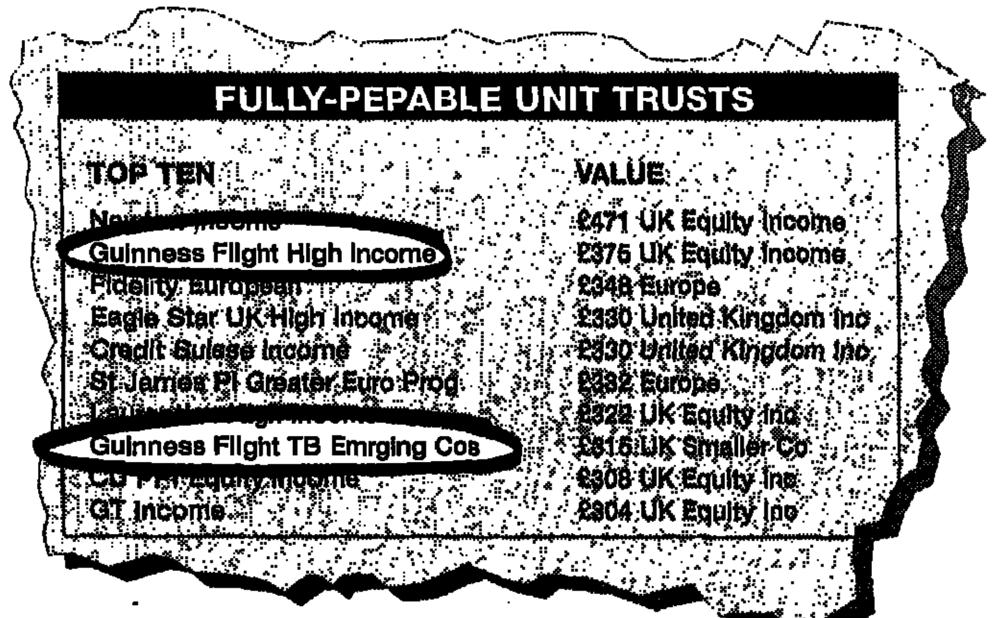

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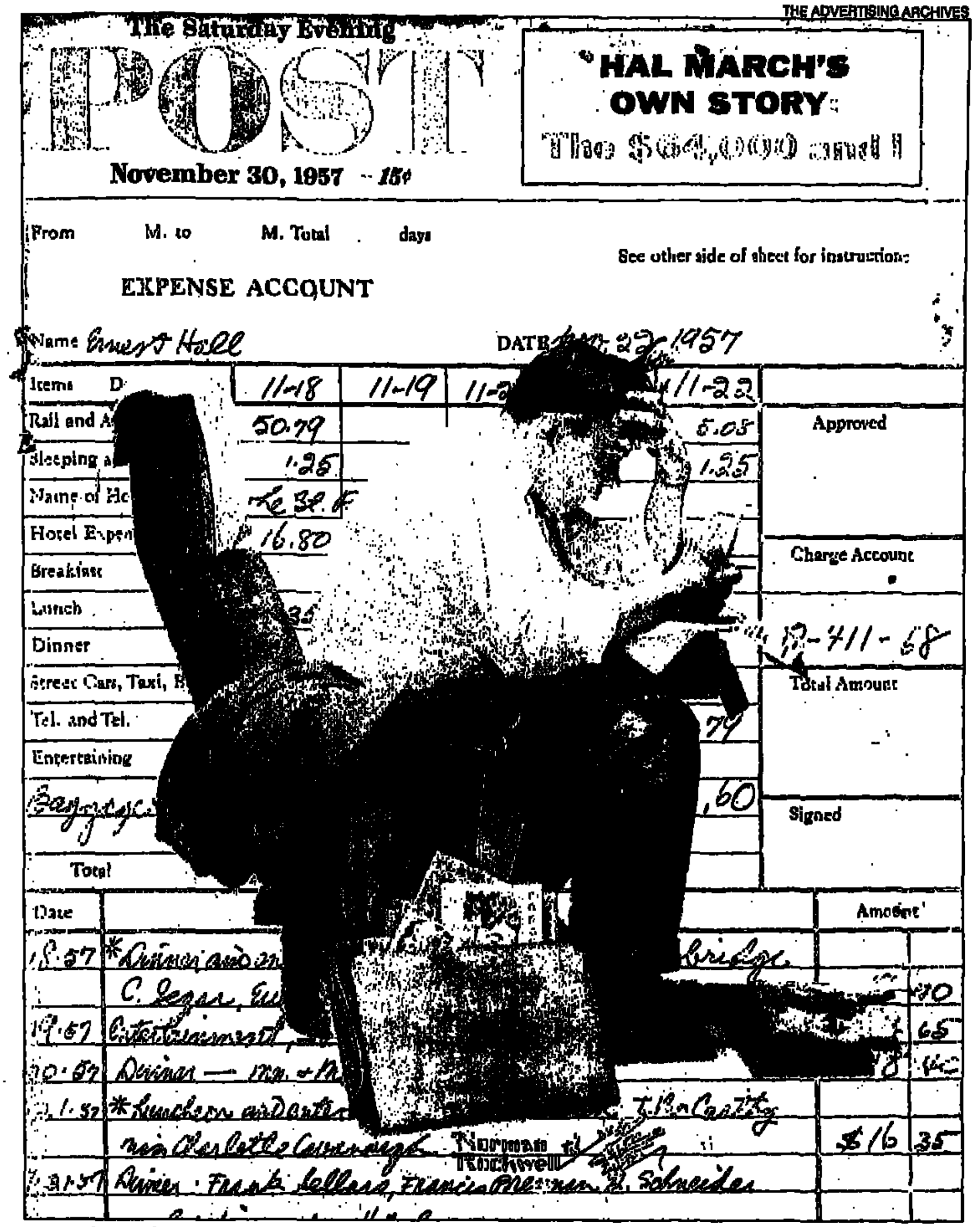

Figure it out: following a few basic rules can stop your financial affairs becoming a headache

Get the best from investments

After you have arranged your deposits to give you maximum access at minimum cost, and reduced your debts to more manageable proportions, you can turn to the stock market and to long term investment for retirement. Of course you can skip Tessas and debt reduction if you want to put your money straight into the stock market and take a higher risk for a potentially higher reward.

Again the strategy of using tax breaks to the full applies to equity investments, so consider personal equity plans (Peps) and pension plans first.

■ **Peps.** You can invest up to £6,000 a year in a general Pep investing in single shares, unit trusts or investment trusts, and a further £3,000 into a plan investing solely in the shares of a single company. All income and capital gains from the investments are tax free. Inevitably the marketing of Peps has centred on the benefit of the tax breaks, although charges can eat heavily into the return, particularly for basic rate taxpayers. Having said this, it still makes sense to use up your full Pep allowance before putting money in other stock market investments. Most companies charge no more to invest in a Pep than in the underlying unit or investment trust.

■ **Pensions.** Unlike a Pep, you cannot get at money you invest in a pension plan until you retire. But apart from their obvious purpose of giving you income and capital in retirement, pensions can be a useful way of keeping down your tax bill. You may be self-employed or have extra income on top of your taxed salary but face being taken into the higher rate tax threshold when this money is added to the rest of your taxable income. If you put the money into your pension instead, you will get tax relief on your contributions at your highest marginal rate of tax up to specified Revenue limits.

■ **Allowances.** Make sure you use your tax allowances to the full. Husbands and wives have their own allowance so if you pay tax but your spouse does not, or if one of you is a basic rate taxpayer and one a higher you should put taxable investments in the other's name. This way you pay no tax or only basic rate on investments that would have been more heavily taxed in your name. S.M.

1% DISCOUNT

If PEPs had been available 21 years ago, £6,000 invested would now be worth £205,746.

If you had invested £6,000 in the GT Income Fund at launch in September 1973 and had reinvested all the income, that investment would now be worth £129,937. If PEPs had been available then, this investment would be worth £205,746 TAX FREE.*

With an above-average current yield of 4.9%,† the GT Income Fund is the ideal choice for your PEP investment, but you must act quickly as 5th April is the deadline for 1994/95 PEPs. For full details call free on ☎ 0800 212 274 (24 hours).

4.9% CURRENT YIELD

THE INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS
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*Source Micropal offer to bid, income reinvested. 5 year performance: +56.5%. †Estimated gross yield. Figures to 1.3.95. Past performance is not a guide to the future. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. PEP legislation can change at any time and the value of tax concessions will depend on individual circumstances. The GT PEP is managed by GT Client Services Ltd. The GT Income Fund is managed by GT Unit Managers Ltd (part of the BIL GT Group), which is regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and is a member of AUTIF.

Low inflation tips the scales from saving to repaying debt

One useful check is to make sure a chunk of your savings is not lying idle when it could be better used to pay off all or part of a debt.

■ **Outstanding loans.** It no longer makes sense to pay out interest to service a loan at a higher rate than your savings are earning in interest. Inflation is almost certainly not going to erode your debts and the cost of servicing them over the next few years, in the way that it has done in the past. With the housing market slump looking set to continue, house prices are likely to stay static for some years to come.

■ **Mortgages.** Traditionally borrowers have been advised that you should keep at least £30,000 of mortgage debt to take advantage of tax relief (Miras). This was a convincing argument when each borrower (rather than each property as now) could claim Miras at their highest marginal rate on up to £30,000. But now the argument is starting to look less convincing. From April you will only get tax relief at 15 per cent. Given fairly low interest rates, the relief will only therefore be worth £10 a month on a £30,000 mortgage, according to the Council of Mortgage Lenders.

Paying off a chunk of the mortgage can reduce your monthly payments. Alternatively, you can pay off part of the outstanding debt but keep your payments the same, which will mean you pay off the debt more quickly. Check whether your lender will credit a capital repayment immediately and recalculate the monthly repayments, or whether it waits until the end of the year. If the latter is the case, keep your money in a savings account until the annual date when it can be credited immediately. Otherwise, not only do your repayments stay the same but you lose the interest on your money.

One caveat though. If you are renting out your home (because you cannot sell it for example), you should make sure you do not pay off too much of your mortgage in case you become liable to tax on your rental income. If your mortgage and rental expenses exceed the rent you are getting, you should not have to pay tax on your rental income.

■ **Credit cards.** These are one of the cheapest ways of borrowing if you pay off the balance in full every month after using the maximum number of days' credit allowed. If you cannot meet the whole bill from funds in your current account, you should borrow the rest from your savings (instant access to avoid penalties). Otherwise you could find yourself paying interest at the equivalent of nearly 20 per cent a year.

■ **Unsecured loans.** Paying these off early is more difficult than paying off other types of loan as there may be penalties. Find out what the penalties are and work out if it still worth paying off the loan early. S.M.

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